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China Mail

ESTABLISHED
1846

No. 25,776 HONG KONG, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1928. PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month.



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NEARING PEKING.

ADVANCE OF FENGTIEN ENEMIES.

FENG AGAIN.

Government Troops Withdrawing From Taming

REPORTED MURDER OF JAPANESE BY "BIG SWORD" MEMBERS.

Opponents of the Northern Government are said to have pushed on till they are now only three hundred miles from Peking, the capital. However, the war reports which convey this intelligence may be subject to doubt and should be accepted with reserve in the absence of independent confirmation.

The victors are the Kuomintang, the army under the "Christian General," an ally of the Nanking Nationalists. Other allies are referred to as having won in another direction.

How China New Year was spent officially in Peking, the rumoured murder of Japanese nationals by the Big Sword Corps (bandits of Manchuria), and news about Peking's foreign loans, are subjects of news.

NEW YEAR IN CAPITAL.

Positions mentioned in press despatches as having been captured by the Kuomintang, which is the army under Marshal Feng Yu-hsiang, best known as the "Christian General," show that the enemies of the Peking Government are only 300 miles away from the capital.

One cable says that the army of the Peking Government, along the Peking-Hankow Railway, is withdrawing from Taming, a city in the south of Chihli province.

It should be noted, however, that the news emanates from Shanghai sources under Nationalist control, and the Nationalists are allies of the "Christian General."

KWANGSI PARTY.

Reported Capture of Yochow in Hunan.

Yochow, a port in the mid-Yangtze basin, is stated in Chinese cables to have been captured by Nationalist troops from Hankow.

At present a campaign is being waged between the Nationalists and the old Hunanese army which opposed Nanking. One of the corps on the Nanking side is the 7th Kwangsi army which is friendly to Canton.

The capture, if true, means a victory for Canton's allies.

However, the "Hong Kong Evening Post" maintains that the Kwangsi army has been defeated by the Hunanese but this report lacks confirmation.

THE BIG SWORDS.

Japanese Officials Said To Be Murdered.

Mukden, Jan. 15.
As the result of the uprisings of members of the Big Sword bandits in various parts of the Tung-pientao district in Manchuria with Tungghua as the centre, it is rumoured here that officials of the Japanese Branch Consulate at Tungghua have been murdered by the bandits, and that Koreans of bad characters are taking part in the uprisings.

Official reports and investigations made so far indicate that these rumours are entirely groundless.

To Induce Help?

As regards the source of these rumours, it is observed in some quarters that, in view of the influence of the Big Sword Corps gradually extending and the situation assuming serious proportions Chinese authorities in Peking and Mukden are disseminating unfounded reports in order to induce Japanese troops to take part in the campaign against the Big Sword Corps.—Tcho.

CALLING ON CHANG.

China New Year Observed in Peking.

Peking, Yesterday.
All the Northern military leaders have arrived in Peking and called on Chang Tso-lin this morning with New Year congratulations.

Chang Tso-lin is feasting them this evening, after which the con-

FILM STORAGE.

Fined For Having No Permit.

A SURPRISE VISIT.

Statement Made On Behalf Of Hong Kong Amusements.

Mr. K. Lum, the manager of two film companies occupying premises on the fifth floor of the China Building, was this morning fined \$25 by Mr. Roger Edward Lindell for storing films on the premises without a permit from the Hon. Captain Superintendent of Police.

The defendant said that the films were never stored over night in the premises, they being taken there for examination on arrival, and were the same day despatched to Canton.

The Police statement was that the films were being repaired when the premises were visited by Mr. Moss of the Fire Brigade.

The defendant denied that the films were being repaired. On that occasion the films had come back in a damp state from the Theatre and they were being wiped dry.

Mr. Lindell, after some discussion with Inspector Ellis as to the wording of the Ordinance, told the defendant that he was guilty of an offence as he had no right under the Ordinance to have any open films in his possession at any time without a permit from the Hon. C.S.P.

A Proper Room.

In regard to the reference made to the Hong Kong Amusements, Ltd., at a previous hearing of the case, Mr. H. J. Armstrong was present in Court this morning to represent the Company.

In making a statement to his Worship, Mr. Armstrong said that he was relying on reports in the newspapers with regard to the remarks made concerning his clients who thought that it reflected on their good name and might affect the opinion of the public on whom the Company relied for support in their business.

The Company therefore wished that he (Mr. Armstrong) made an explanation to the effect that the Hong Kong Amusements, Ltd., have a proper room in the Theatre where films were examined, cleaned, packed, re-wound or repaired. They only used the room in China Building for the purpose of showing the films to the censors and members of the staff. The projector used in this room was a Pathe projector of the sort that could be used in all houses without a permit, and no films other than those required for showing purposes were taken into the room.

This room was under the supervision of a European, the operator was an experienced one, and there were fire extinguishers, ready at hand.

Fire Proof.

Mr. Lindell said that he had no doubt that there was a difference between Mr. Armstrong's clients and the defendant.

Asked if he agreed with Mr. Armstrong's statement, Inspector Ellis said that he had since learned that a fire proof room was being erected by the Hong Kong Amusements, Ltd.

Mr. Armstrong said that the decision to build the fire proof room was made long before the present proceedings against the defendant. The point, he said, was brought up by a censor and the Company immediately communicated with the C.S.P., as to what was best to be done. The latter suggested the erecting of the fire proof room and it was immediately taken in hand.

NAVAL OIL.

RESERVES SOLD TO FOREIGN INTERESTS.

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

Washington, Yesterday.
In consequence of a report of a naval oil-inspector that the Honolulua Consolidated Oil Company is selling oil from the naval reserve, California, to the Royal Dutch shell interests, Mr. Wilbur has appointed a commission to investigate, and make recommendations with a view to preventing the disposal of oil from the United States naval reserves to foreign companies.—Reuter's American Service.

CRACKERS.

Many Chinese Charged This Morning.

MAGISTRATE'S SYMPATHY.

Mr. Lindell Rules Against Police In Two Instances.

No fewer than 16 Chinese were this morning summoned before Mr. Roger Edward Lindell for firing crackers without permits, or to the danger of the public.

Four men who pleaded "guilty" to the lesser offence were fined \$1 each, while one who admitted firing crackers to the danger of the public by throwing them into the street from a verandah, was fined \$2. One man was cautioned and discharged.

Five defendants who failed to appear in Court had their bail of \$2 each estreated, whilst four other absentees forfeited bails of \$5 each.

One man from Wanchai was charged with throwing crackers into the street from the paved-

COMING TO CHINA.

Cruiser "Cumberland" Leaves To-morrow.

Rugby, Yesterday.
The cruiser "Cumberland," the first of the county class, will leave Sheerness on Thursday to join the cruiser squadron on the China Station.—British Wireless Service.

ment. He said that he merely dropped into the drain.

The Magistrate remarked that he was not at all in sympathy with such prosecutions, just because a man had thrown some crackers into the street.

Dropped Into Cars.

A police Sergeant said that if crackers thus thrown bursted in front of a motor car driver a very serious accident might happen. He had seen several crackers dropped into motor cars.

Mr. Lindell said that in view of the Chinese New Year, every car driver would naturally take precautions to have their hoods up. He himself had been through

FAIR WEATHER.

North-east winds, moderate, fair, is the official weather forecast until noon to-morrow.

An anticyclone is shown over South Manchuria. There may be a depression over South China. Moderate monsoon may be expected over the China Sea.

Wanchai four or five times during Chinese New Year and had had no trouble. It was a different matter if crackers were deliberately dropped into cars.

The defendant was discharged.

Little Squibs.

A West Point Chinese was summoned for firing crackers during prohibited hours yesterday—after 6 p.m.

Mr. Lindell decided that there was no such offence and the charge was bad. He said that it had been held before that the Government notification relating to the firing of crackers only covered the firing of strings of crackers from houses, and not the little squibs, which did not come under the prohibited hours.

WAR REPORT.

U.S. NAVY YARD CHIEF'S REMARKS.

LIGHT RECEPTION.

New York, Yesterday.
The newspapers make light of the remarks on the subject of war attributed to Admiral Plunkett, Navy Yard Commandant.

The "New York World," in an editorial, strongly endorses Senator Borah's condemnation of naval jingoism as "his greatest service to the cause of peace." Nothing is more certain than that Borah speaks the real mind of the American on this subject. Super-Navy enthusiasts would lead us into a bitter feud with Great Britain, but they won't get away with it.

The "Herald Tribune" says that Admiral Plunkett is more at home on the quarter-deck than in an armchair or anything else ashore.—Reuter's American Service.

"ALMIGHTY DOLLAR."

America Controls World Price.

GREAT GOLD STOCKS.

The Real Determinant Of World Movements.

London, Yesterday.
"The world to-day is on the dollar standard," declared Mr. Reginald McKenna, Chairman, in presiding at the meeting of the Midland Bank in London to-day.

America was able to control the world price level because her gold stocks were so great that she could afford to lose large quantities without any risk of her gold reserve falling below the legal minimum, and her central banking system was so constituted that, given her great wealth, she could absorb large quantities of gold and at the same time deprive it of its credit in creating the powers of development of the central bank policy.

The United States had shown that gold, while it might be retained as a medium for making international payments, could be deprived of its function as the ultimate standard value. The American price level was not affected by gold movements, but controlled by the policy of the reserve banks in expanding or contracting credit, consequently it was not the value of gold in America which determined the value of the dollar but the value of the dollar which determined the value of gold. Although gold was still the nominal basis of most currencies, the real determinant of the movements of general world level prices was the purchasing power of the dollar.—Reuter's American Service.

PAN-AMERICANISM.

POINTED REFERENCE TO JAPAN.

New York, Monday.
At the Pan-American Conference, a pointed reference to Japan was made by Mr. H. L. Stimson, Governor-General Elect of the Philippines, who said he believed in eventual self-government for the Philippines, but did not favour absolute independence. He said the islands were overpopulated and the people were enervated by the languorous climate, while neighbouring lands were populated by an energetic and warlike people. If the Philippines secured absolute independence they would almost certainly be annexed by a more powerful neighbour.—Reuter's American Service.

IDLE LIST.

BIG DECREASE REPORTED AT HOME.

LOWEST SINCE 1920

Rugby, Yesterday.
A further reduction by over 38,000 in the number of persons unemployed is recorded by the Ministry of Labour, for the week ended January 16.

The number of men, women, and boys unemployed was 1,198,000, which is the lowest recorded for the corresponding date of any year since 1920.

The Industrial Transference Board, which was recently appointed to consider the question of finding work in other parts of the country and the Dominions for unemployed workers, particularly miners, in areas where unemployment is acute, are making a thorough preliminary survey before visits are paid to these areas.—British Wireless Service.

RECEIVED BY KING.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AT NICE.

Rugby, Yesterday.
During their brief stay at Nice the King and Queen of Afghanistan to-day received H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, who is staying at Cap Ferret.
Owing to his health the Duke will be unable to return to London in March when King Amanullah and his Queen will visit Britain.—British Wireless Service.

REDS FOUND.

FORTY DISCOVERED NEAR CANTON.

PROMPTLY EXECUTED.

Further Action By Government Against Unions.

SWATOW IN NO IMMEDIATE DANGER FROM IRONSIDES.

A hundred of the Police Commissioner's personal bodyguards effected the arrest of over forty Communists in an environ of Canton city on China New Year Eve. Arms and ammunition were seized in the raid and, it is stated, the alleged Reds were promptly executed.

Further action has been taken by the Canton Government against labour unions. Printers' headquarters has been dissolved and four of their number punished. Shop workers have been prohibited from organising a union.

Immediate anxiety as to the influence of military developments on Swatow seems to have been dispelled, but news about the Ironsides is still vague.

QUIET NEW YEAR.

Special precautions were maintained by the city police in Canton on China New Year Eve (Sunday), following the capture of more than forty men and a small arsenal in the environs of Canton city.

About a hundred of the Police Commissioner's bodyguards were despatched, states a report, to a village near the suburbs, where evidence was found substantiating the belief that Communists had plotted a second rising in Canton just before the (old calendar) New Year. A large quantity of arms and ammunition was seized.

The arrested men were taken back to police headquarters in the city and, continues the report, shot at East parade ground the same day.

How New Year Began.
Emergency conditions prevailed for some time afterwards but the rising, if any, did not take place as the authorities were well prepared.

China New Year passed off quietly in Canton. Depression prevailed up to Sunday evening, but money became suddenly plentiful and shopping was at its height on Sunday night, ushering in a New Year with some degree of confidence on Monday.

FURTHER ACTION.

Government Deals With Labour Unions.

Further action has been taken by the authorities following the undeclared policy of a strong hand against labour unions. Part of the activities is attributable to suspicion of Communist infection, and the other part can be classified under "domestic labour disputes."

The printer's headquarters has been raided and dissolved and four arrests have been made at some of the newspaper offices in Canton. A list of officials and a "plan of action" against capitalists was unearthed.

Shop Folds Under Ban.
Two unions which, in the main, affect shop employees, have also come in for attention. These were dealt with prior to China New Year since when the Government's policy with regard to them has become more clearly defined. The men involved are shop foks and foks of business houses. Formation of their re-

CANNOT PAY.

MEXICO AND SINKING FUND SERVICE.

New York, Yesterday.
The Mexican Financial Agent announced that the Mexican Government informed the International Bankers' Committee that it would be unable to resume, on January 1, the full service Sinking Fund on the entire direct debt and invited the Committee to appoint experts to visit Mexico City to examine the situation and, if possible, within the Government's capacity, the basis for annual payments, interest and amortisation on the external debt.—Reuter's American Service.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

REORGANISATION FROM WITHIN.

BANKER'S VIEW.

London, Yesterday.
Presiding at the annual meeting of Martin's Bank at Liverpool, Mr. Holland Martin declared that the suggestion that the banks should come to the assistance of the cotton industry, and take control by investing in debentures and shares, was impracticable and entirely against the traditions of British banking. The banks were still prepared to make such advances as they deemed safe, but reorganisation of the industry must come from within.—Reuter.

PEKING CONDITIONS.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO. TO CLOSE.

HEAVY IMPOSITIONS.

Peking, Jan. 17.
It is understood that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., are closing their Peking branch in a few months' time. The present manager, Mr. Mackenzie, will go on leave in May, and it is believed that he will not be replaced, the offices being advertised for renting.

A number of big companies seeking contracts, such as Westman Pearson's, Armstrong Whitworth's, and Vickers withdrew their regular representatives two or three years ago, while the Kaifan Mining Administration closed their local office in the autumn. It is now understood that other ordinary trading firms will follow Jardine's example.

The reasons are that there have been several years of bad trade owing to the civil wars, accompanied by the heavy likin and other charges and especially very heavy freight charges.—Reuter.

**COMMERCE
AND
FINANCE.**

Public Improvement.

MACAO.
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT.
COLONY'S ASPIRATIONS.
[By a Hong Kong Visitor.]

Public Improvements.
In the extended programme of public improvements for Macao, it was gathered in the course of an interview kindly granted by the Governor on Monday, two schemes are of outstanding importance. One is the large pier in the new harbour and the second, which is even more

In the catalogue of exhibits issued by the Harbour Works Authorities at Macao in connection with the Photographic and Art Exhibition inaugurated on Sunday there appears a sketch map of the city and its environs under the heading "New Port in Portugal's Ancient Colony: Opportunities for commercial and industrial development." In the foreword of the booklet on the initials—"C. A."—of the Director of Port Works Department, Mr. Carlos Alves, he explains that the exhibition has for its purpose three objects: First, Macao propaganda; secondly, the stimulating of photographic art; and, thirdly, the collection into and showing of some of the customs, costumes and social activities of Macao and the Far East.

waterworks. The new pier will be of a length of 400 ft. and will shorten the distance from and to Hong Kong for steamers on the route to run by at least twenty minutes. There is no small consideration especially to excursionist who wish to complete the trip in quick time. Contract for the new pier has been let and work already started.

The waterworks scheme has not been quite so far advanced, but enough has been gathered in the course of conversation with the Governor at Macao to establish the fact that when the works are completed the inhabitants of Macao will enjoy the benefits of a constant and independent water supply throughout the year.

Like Hong Kong, the population

As regards the second and the third objectives of the promoters of the exhibition it has attained its purpose. As regards the first, forms part and a no mean effort the scheme of arrangements in connection with the laudable and justifiable ambition of Macao to promote its commercial and industrial development.

of Macao is going up by leaps and bounds. Not so many years ago, it was below the 80,000 mark. The census taken last year showed the population had increased to about 150,000, just about doubled itself.

Paradoxical as it may appear the revenue of the colony has dwindled in an inverse ratio. It is, however, capable of explanation, when it is stated that the Macao Government is determined to live up to its obligation in the matter of the total extinction of the opium trade.

An Ungenerous Stigma.
For long struggling under the stigma which its less generous visitors sought to attach to Macao as a colony subsisting directly from the bounty of a foreign victor's sources, the administration of the Portuguese colony since the days of the enlightened government of Dr. Rodrigues has been making bold bids to outlive this unenviable reputation. The biggest effort, from the point of view both of its magnitude and cost, has undoubtedly been the construction of the new harbour. With the completion of that great public work, the Government has imposed upon itself the task of attracting notice to the advantages of Macao as a

Drastic Retrenchment. To meet the colony's reduced revenue, the Governor since his assumption of office at Macao a little over a year ago had to pursue an unpopular Policy of drastic retrenchment in the salaries of the public service and in the abolition of certain offices and the coordination of others. With the satisfactory result that while not impairing the efficiency of the public service Senhor Barbosa has succeeded in reducing the cost of the administration by \$150,000 a year. Nor is this all. The garbolicution of the colony, always a thorny problem, is going to cost less by \$140,000 a year commencing from 1933. The main aim and purpose of the present administration is to seek to balance the colonial budget with the aid of revenue derivable from rates and taxes, and licences and other sources of internal revenue.

outlet for the products of South China by reason of its contiguity with the wealthy agricultural district of Heungshan and the riverine ports of the West River delta. Sunday's art exhibition is just one of such attractions. It was conceived by the officials in charge of the propaganda at Macao—Mr. Antonio Alves of the Portuguese side and Mr. J. M. Braga on the English side.

Hong Kong's Co-operation. The results of the exhibition exceeded all expectations. His Excellency the Governor, who presided the opening ceremony, appraised at its true worth the invaluable co-operation secured from Hong Kong, without the assistance of which the standard of success

Shekhi-Macao Motor Road.

From the new motor road connecting the progressive city of Shekhi with Macao much is expected in official quarters by way of commercial and industrial development. All products and manufactures in the hinterland of Macao will henceforth find an outlet seaward by way of Macao. Motor lorries laden with perishable products and merchandise will reach Macao over the new road and approach the new pier in the outer harbour. Cargoes thus carried for export from their places of production will be discharged into steamers direct for Hong Kong or other destinations. From this point of view, the outlook for the commercial and shipping development of Macao has never appeared brighter.

All well-wishers of Macao will echo the fair aspiration of its Governor when Senhor Barbosa concluded his inaugural speech at the opening of the Art. Exhibition on Sunday that "there exists in Macao a wish to progress and in her aspirations Macao desires to live in harmony with the neighbouring friendly cities and to maintain feelings of cordial relations that have subsisted for so long a time."

high mark. To the large number of exhibitors and visitors from Hong Kong Senhor Barbosa returned Macao's grateful thanks. A fitting appreciation of the expert duties of the judges was tendered to Mr. C. H. Blason, Major H. L. Wright and Mr. Sameda, all of Hong Kong. Three watercolours—"Hong Kong in 1854" and "Praia Grande, Macao in 1824" (2)

COAL BAN.
—
RESTRICTIONS REMOVED BY
FRANCE

Commissioner of the Chinese Maritime Customs in Hong Kong—d deservedly attracted a great deal of attention. The section from Peking collected by the Portuguese Minister to China, Senhor Joao de Bianchi, is hard to beat.

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The British National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce issued the following announcement on December 15:—

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G. L. O. SANDER.

The British National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce, has been informed by Monsieur Clementel, president of the French National Committee, that

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The latter has now been notified by the French Ministry of Public Works that the decree of the 25th May last, which imposed restrictions on the importation of coal

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SAVE DEPOSITS FOR TO LET.

ALAN TONG & CO.
Chief Managers
Hong Kong, 21st March 1887.

This welcome announcement follows upon informal conversations which took place between representatives of the British coal trade and

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 2. *Chlorophyll b* (Chl *b*)
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 103. *Chlorophyll axz* (Chl *axz*)
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 106. *Chlorophyll azz* (Chl *azz*)
 107. *Chlorophyll azaa* (Chl *aza*)
 108. *Chlorophyll abz* (Chl *abz*)
 109. *Chlorophyll acz* (Chl *acz*)
 110. *Chlorophyll adz* (Chl *adz*)
 111. *Chlorophyll aez* (Chl *aez*)
 112. *Chlorophyll afz* (Chl *afz*)
 113. *Chlorophyll agz* (Chl *agz*)
 114. *Chlorophyll ahz* (Chl *ahz*)
 115. *Chlorophyll aiz* (Chl *aiz*)
 116. *Chlorophyll ajz* (Chl *ajz*)
 117. *Chlorophyll akz* (Chl *akz*)
 118. *Chlorophyll alz* (Chl *alz*)
 119. *Chlorophyll amz* (Chl *amz*)
 120. *Chlorophyll anz* (Chl *anz*)
 121. *Chlorophyll aoz* (Chl *aoz*)
 122. *Chlorophyll apz* (Chl *apz*)
 123. *Chlorophyll aqz* (Chl *aqz*)
 124. *Chlorophyll arz* (Chl *arz*)
 125. *Chlorophyll asz* (Chl *asz*)
 126. *Chlorophyll atz* (Chl *atz*)
 127. *Chlorophyll auz* (Chl *auz*)
 128. *Chlorophyll avz* (Chl *avz*)
 129. *Chlorophyll awz* (Chl *awz*)
 130. *Chlorophyll axz* (Chl *axz*)
 131. *Chlorophyll ayz* (Chl *ayz*)
 132. *Chlorophyll ayz* (Chl *ayz*)
 133.

Committee at the Stockholm Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce in July. As a result of the friendly discussion which then took place, the French National Committee was able to take the matter up with Monsieur Tardieu, French Minister of Public Works, who promised to give the matter the full and careful consideration with a view to a communication being made in the matter in due course.

While it can at once be said that the French authorities took a reasonable view of the administration of the decree, nevertheless it is extremely satisfactory to know that the cause for any feeling of anxiety was now being definitely removed.

LOWER PRICES

The world's output of oil in 1927 will probably prove to be 15 to 20 per cent. above that of 1926, in spite of the fact that in many oil fields production has been deliberately curtailed. The stocks of crude and refined oil on land in the United States at the present time are nearly 10 per cent. greater than they were at the beginning of the year, and the prices of crude oil have fallen, in all directions, from 20 per cent. to 25 per cent. In a paper delivered before the Institute of Fuel Dr. A. E. Dunstan stated that "the whole world is suffering from a glut of petroleum and over-production is taking place and is likely to continue." Consequently, the production of liquid fuel by the destructive distillation of coal is hanging fire and is not held up for any technical reasons, so that, should any shortage of natural petroleum occur, it can be made up by other means.

In fact, none of those in touch with the question of oil production

now believes that there is any possibility of shortage for a long time to come, and certainly not within the life period of a ship, say, 20 years to 25 years. This doubt need not, therefore, concern the shipowner, as it did a year or two back, before the situation had become clear. But over-production ought to involve lower prices, and to a certain extent it has done, for contracts for Diesel oil for 1928 which have been concluded by shipowners are lower than they have been in past years, in some cases to a substantial extent. Moreover, it is a fact that should be more generally known as indicating the stability of oil prices that quotations for Diesel oil at British ports have not varied by more than 12s. 6d. per ton during the past three years, and if we exclude a period of three months the fluctuation has not been more than 7s. 6d. per ton, whilst at the present moment Diesel oil is 7s. 6d. per ton less than it was in January, 1925.

Nevertheless, with the continued over-production of oil, the reduced tanker freights, and the lower coal quotations, there seems every reason for lower oil prices, and the present British price of £4 10s. per ton could, with advantage, be brought down to £4 5s. per ton. We suggest to the oil companies that, for their own advantage as much as that of the oil user, they herald 1928 by an announcement of a reduction such as we have proposed. —"The Motor Ship."

HONG KONG TIDE

The tide-table given below has been obtained by aid of the Tide-predicting Machine, which includes 40 components for the better prediction of tides, from the result of the analysis of the tidal observations, taken at the Kaulung tidal observatory under the direction of Dr. Doberck during the years 1887, 1888, & 1889. The times and heights are given for Kaulung; but they may be used for the Victoria Naval yard and Aberdeen, the differences being very small. The times of high- and low-water must not be considered to coincide with the times of slack-water and change of current, the two phenomena being quite distinct.

Jan. 20 to 26, 1928.					
DATE		HIGHER W. m.		LOWER W. m.	
Jan.	Standard Times	Ht.	Standard Times	Ht.	
Fri. 20	m 8 48	4.0	m 9 29	3.7	
	7 16 ⁴	7.2	0 43 ⁴	1.4	
Sat. 21	m 9 33	4.0	0 3 6	1.3	
	7 6 ²	7.6	1 27 ²	2.8	
Sun. 22	m 10 14	4.1	m 3 40	0.8	
	8 12 ²	7.9	2 4 ²	2.2	
Mon. 23	m 10 11	4.3	0 4 16	0.6	
	9 17 ¹	8.1	1 42 ¹	3.1	
Tue 24	m 11 27	4.1	0 4 13	0.3	
	10 3 ²	8.1	1 32 ²	3.0	
Wed. 25	0 4 ²	4.3	0 5 31	0.4	
	10 42 ²	8.0	1 5 17	3.0	
Thurs 26	0 43 ²	4.3	0 4 16	0.7	
	11 3 ²	7.3			

HONG KONG MARKET PRODUCE.

APPROXIMATE RETAIL PRICES

Butcher-Meat.

		Jan. 18, June, June	
		1928. 1918. 1914.	
		Cts.	Cts.
Beef Sirloin	牛 尾 肥	lb.	23 24 13
" Prime Cut	" "	"	23 23 12
" Corned	咸 肉	"	23 23 12
" Roast	牛 肉	"	23 24 22
" Breast	牛 肉	"	24 20 18
" Soup	牛 湯	"	23 20 18
" Steak	牛 排	"	23 24 22
" Steak Sirloin	牛 排	"	40 80 85
" Sausages	牛 肉	"	40 28 20
Bullock's Brains	牛 腦	per set	15 10 12
" Tongue, fresh	牛 舌	each	65 50 60
" Tongue, corned	牛 舌	"	— 60 —
" Head	牛 頭	lb.	24 13 14
" Heart	牛 心	"	84 20 18
" Hump, salt	牛 脂	each	8 10 12
" Feet	牛 蹄	"	16 18 12
" Kidneys	牛 腎	"	28 20 22
" Tail	牛 尾	lb.	24 13 14
" Liver	牛 肝	"	7 6 7
" Tripe	牛 肚	set	\$1.20 \$1.00 \$1.00
Calves' Head & Feet	牛 仔 頭 腳	lb.	48 28 —
Mutton Chop	羊 排	"	48 28 —
" Leg	羊 腿	"	48 24 —
" Shoulder	羊 肩	"	46 — —
" Saddle	羊 鞍	"	30 — 27
Pig's Chubbins	豬 排	Per set	3 — 12
" Brains	豬 腦	lb.	15 — —
" Feet	豬 蹄	"	23 15 18
" Fry	豬 油	"	15 20 —
" Head	豬 頭	each	15 10 10
" Heart	豬 心	"	12 10 8
" Kidneys	豬 腎	lb.	40 30 24
" Liver	豬 肝	"	30 — 70
" Leg	豬 腿	"	32 60 70
" Loin	豬 腰	"	24 21 —
" Fat or Lard	豬 油	per set	86 60 70
Sheep's Head & Feet	羊 頭 腳	each	12 8 7
" Heart	羊 心	"	16 12 10
" Kidneys	羊 腎	"	46 28 25
" Liver	羊 肝	lb.	20 25 22
Sucking Pigs, to order	羊 仔	"	30 20 18
Suet, Beef	牛 油	"	46 28 28
" Mutton	羊 油	"	38 20 19
Veal	牛 仔	"	36 20 20
" Sausages	牛 肉	"	30 — —
	No. 1.	"	30 — —

Poultry

		Jan. 18, June, June,		
		1923. 1918. 1914.		
		Cts.	Cts.	Cts.
Chicken	鷄	lb.	55	80 81
Capon, Small	雞	"	50	23 80
Capon, Large	雞	"	55	23 80
Duck	鴨	"	40	22 21
Doves	鳩	each	—	22 21
Eggs, Hen (cooking)	雞蛋	per doz.	82	18 —
Eggs, Hen (fresh)	鮮雞蛋	"	88	25 29
Fowls, Canton	本地雞	lb.	55	36 24
Fowls, Hainan	海南雞	"	45	36 24
Geese	鴨	"	50	24 24
Pigeons, Canton	鴿	each	55	60 —
" Hothow	海口鴿	"	36	23 —
Turkeys, Cock	火火公雞	lb.	60	—
Turkeys, Hen	火火母雞	"	55	51 45
Snipe	鴉	each	—	—
Pheasant	山雞	pair	\$2.20	—
Quail	鶉	each	25	— 2
Partridges	鶉	"	35	—

Fruits:

Almonds	杏仁	lb.	70	85	—
Apples (California)	金山苹果	"	22	24	—
Bananas (birds')	金山香蕉	"	6	4	—
Carambols	楊梅	"	—	12	—
Cocoanuts	椰子	"	—	12	—
Lemons, China	博山檸檬	each	12	10	10
Lemons (America)	博山檸檬	lb.	12	7	0
Liches, Dried	山陳	each	10	8	0
Liches (Canton)	荔枝	lb.	45	25	80
Oranges	新會甜橙	"	11	—	—
Pears (Canton)	梨	"	18	—	15
Peanuts	花生	"	12	—	—
Peanuts, Large	大花生	"	14	10	12
Plintain	香蕉	"	—	12	—
Pumelo, Siam	暹羅柚	each	4	3	—
Walnuts	胡桃	lb.	18	12	6
Grapes	葡萄	lb.	18	—	16
	提子	"	45	—	—

Vegetables, &c.

Artichokes	鴨芽菜	each	10	—	8
Beans, Sprout	豆苗	lb.	5	—	7
" Long	豇豆	"	14	8	—
Beet Root	甜菜根	lb.	10	—	—
Bitter Squash	苦瓠	"	8	5	9
Brinjals, Green	青瓜	"	7	5	9
" Red	紅瓜	"	5	5	3
Cabbage, Chinese	菜薹	"	5	—	—
" (Shanghai)	上海菜	"	7	12	—
Cane Shoots, bunch	蔗苗	"	—	—	—
Cauliflower (Large)	大花椰菜	each	16	—	—
" (Medium)	中花椰菜	"	12	—	—
" (Small)	小花椰菜	"	10	6	6
Carrots	胡蘿蔔	lb.	8	6	6
Celery, Chinese	芹菜	"	9	10	6
Chillies, Dried	乾辣椒	"	25	25	5
" Red	紅辣椒	"	15	16	16
" Green	青辣椒	"	14	8	12
Curry Stuff, English	英式咖喱料	"	10	8	—
Cucumbers	黃瓜	"	10	2	—
Garlic	蒜頭	"	8	6	6
Ginger, Young	嫩薑	"	8	7	—
" Old	老薑	"	8	10	—
Horseradish, Shanghai	上海蔞	"	85	8	4
Indian Corn	粟米	"	8	45	—
Lettuce	生菜	"	6	1	—
Water Chestnuts	荸薺	"	10	—	8
" Mandarin	林林	"	12	—	8
Mushrooms, Fresh	鮮蘑菇	"	—	—	8
Okroes	茄子	"	15	1	10
Onions, Bombay	洋蔥	"	8	8	3
" Green	青蔥	"	5	4	6
" Shanghai	上海蔥	"	6	6	—
Paraley	芥菜	"	25	60	—
Potato, Sweet	薯仔	"	5	3	—
" Japanese	日本薯仔	"	5	3	—
" American	金山薯	"	6	3	—
Pumpkin	冬瓜	"	5	4	4
Raddish	紅蘿蔔	"	5	—	—
Rhubarb (Fresh)	鮮菜薹	"	—	—	10
Shallots	小蔥	"	10	8	—
Spinach	菠菜	"	8	4	—
Tomatoes	蕃薯	"	10	7	—
Taro	芋頭	"	6	6	—
Turnips, Punkt (Long)	長筒蘿蔔	"	5	4	—
Vegetable Marrow	茭白	"	—	4	—
Water Cress	蔞	"	6	15	—
Water Lily Root	荷花根	"	9	6	—

Fish.

Barbel	鰻魚	lb.	55	19	24
Bream	魚	"	30	20	26
Canton Fresh Water Fish.	城淡魚	"	30	13	16
Carp	魚	"	28	16	27
Catfish	魚	"	28	12	9
Codfish	魚	"	36	20	25
Crabs	蟹	"	45	23	28
Cuttle Fish	魚	"	28	16	15
Dab	魚	"	40	23	19
Dace	魚	"	42	20	—
Dog Fish	魚肚	"	11	10	8
Eels, Conger	魚	"	30	18	—
" Fresh Water	水	"	22	10	18
" Yellow	水	"	24	26	80
Frogs	蛙	"	76	32	25
Garoupa	魚	"	75	40	80
Gudgeon	魚	"	80	22	18
Herrings	魚	"	25	15	23
Halibut	魚	"	80	18	15
Labrus	魚	"	26	22	13
Loach	魚	"	45	22	24
Lobsters	蟹	"	45	82	21
Mackerel	魚	"	28	20	26
Monk Fish	魚	"	30	13	2
Mullet	魚	"	25	13	2
Oysters	魚	"	28	16	22
Parrot Fish	魚	"	28	14	9
Porch	魚	"	28	20	15
Pike	魚	"	30	16	9
Plaice	魚	"	40	26	29
Pomfret, Black	魚	"	35	36	50
Pomfret, White	魚	"	45	35	45
Prawns	蝦	"	90	40	44
Ray	魚	"	11	10	14
Rock Fish	魚	"	65	13	13
Roach	魚	"	28	22	16
Salmon	魚	"	64	36	80
Shark	魚	"	10	8	10
Gkate	魚	"	12	10	10
Shrimps	蝦	"	35	32	50
Snappers	魚	"	45	26	35
Sole	魚	"	35	23	22
Tench	魚	"	28	22	13
Turbot	魚	"	30	13	12
	魚	"	25	10	—

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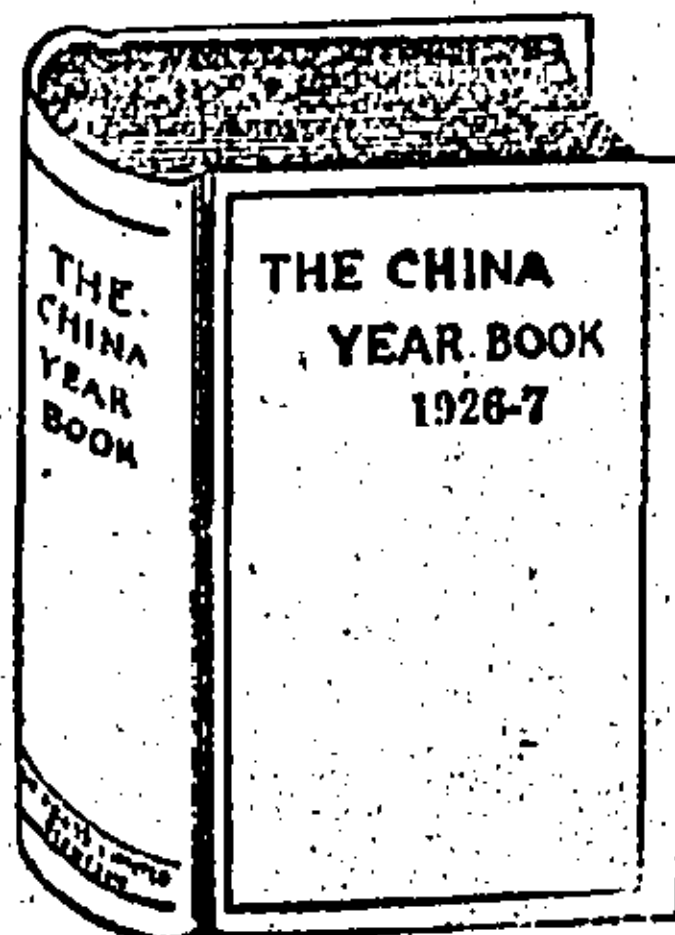
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NOTICES.**ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE.**

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SCHOOL will REOPEN February 8th. Examination for New Students, TUESDAY, February 7th, at 9.30 a.m. For Prospectus, for Boarders and Day-boys apply: ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE, Prospect Place, Hong Kong, 21st January, 1928.

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NOTICES.**HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND
FINANCE CO., LTD.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders in this Company will be held at the Hong Kong Hotel, Hong Kong, on THURSDAY, the 9th February, 1928 at 11 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1927. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY 1st February to FRIDAY, 10th February (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of Shares can be registered.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hong Kong, 28th January, 1928.

**THE HONG KONG LAND INVEST-
MENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the FORTIETH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., on THURSDAY, 9th February, 1928, at 12.30 p.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1927.

The REGISTER of SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 26th January to THURSDAY, 9th February, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
L. S. GREENHILL,
Secretary.
Hong Kong, 10th January, 1928.

UNION WATERBOAT CO., LTD.**NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.**

THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders will be held in the Offices of Messrs. Dodwell & Company, Limited, on TUESDAY, the 7th February, 1928, at 11 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the report of the General Managers together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1927.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 30th January to 7th February, 1928, both dates inclusive.

DODWELL & COMPANY, LTD.,
General Managers.
Hong Kong, 21st January, 1928.

NOW READY

The January issue of the

CHINA JOURNAL**CONTENTS:**

Notes on Chinese Sword Furniture

The Yalu River to Linkiang

Tai-kam—a Paradise for Lepers

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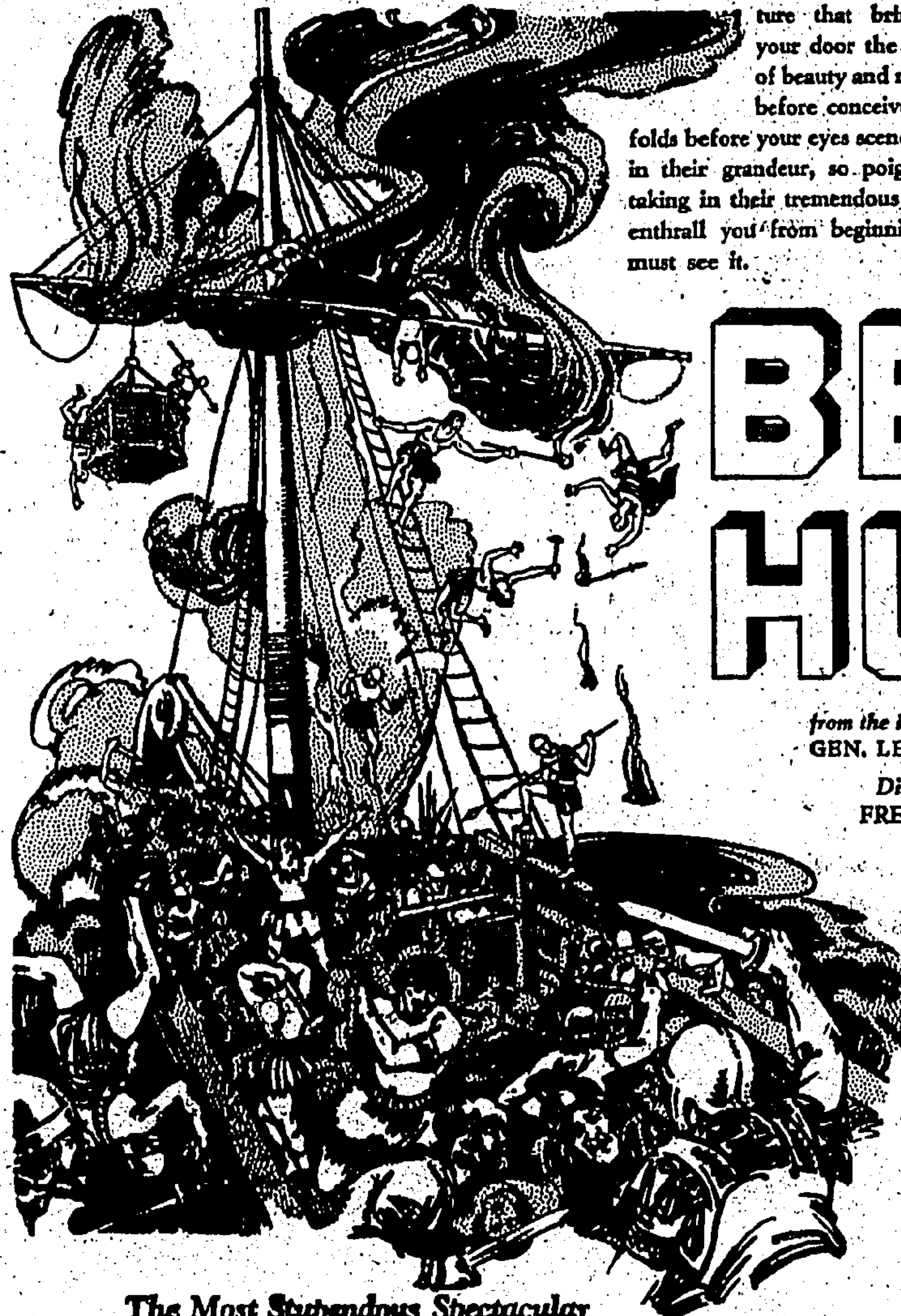
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COMING TO THE

QUEEN'S MONDAY

January 30th

'VARSITY "RAG."**EFFORTS TO STOP FUTURE
SCENES.****ANGRY PROTESTS.**

Great indignation was expressed at the disgraceful behaviour of undergraduates during so-called "rag" in the West End of London after the Oxford-Cambridge Rugby football match at Twickenham.

One suggestion put forward was that future "rags" should take place where the undergraduates would come under the jurisdiction of the university authorities. Another was that an undergraduate convicted in court subsequently should be sent down.

As reported in "The Daily Mail," a warning has already been given to University College, Gower Street, London, and King's College, Strand, that scenes like those in a recent "rag" must not happen again.

Instances of vulgarity and hooliganism which caused the abandonment of the performances of "The Girl Friend" at the Palace Theatre and "Hit the Deck" at the London Hippodrome were quoted.

Wet paper, bread, towels, and coins were among the missiles hurled at the members of the casts. Scrimmages occurred in the corridors (and bars, and glasses, tables, chairs, and panes of glass were smashed).

Women's Dresses Torn.

Several women had their dresses torn, stair rods were removed, and pictures were upset; while insults were offered to many who were not undergraduates; and in several instances young men threatened to punch elderly men.

At the next meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association it is probable that the subject will be brought up in an attempt to find some way of preventing similar occurrences.

"Gross Vulgarity."

Mr. Frank Boor, manager of the Hippodrome, said to a "Daily Mail" reporter:

We do not want any bad feeling to result from this affair, but we do protest against the gross vulgarity displayed, and against the lack of sympathy shown to the performers. The general pugilistic atmosphere, with youngsters threatening to knock everyone out, was most objectionable.

Mr. William Hawes, general manager at the Palace Theatre, said:

For the prestige of the universities something should be done by the authorities to prevent a recurrence of such hooliganism. I suggest that the match should be banished from Twickenham, so that the

undergraduates will come under the jurisdiction of the university authorities at Oxford or Cambridge.

The behaviour of some was grossly vulgar. Rolls of toilet paper and articles I cannot mention were among the missiles hurled on to the stage.

We are almost powerless to prevent such invasions of the theatre because the tickets for the most part were bought through agencies.

"Disgraceful"

The Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, the Rev. G. A. Weekes, said to a reporter:

The university cannot be expected to control the actions of its members when they are away from Cambridge and can only leave such disgraceful behaviour to be dealt with by the ordinary civil authorities. In cases of especially outrageous conduct on the part of a member of a college it is for the college in question to decide whether it will allow the offender to return to Cambridge.

The President of Queens' College, Cambridge, the Rev. T. C. Fitzpatrick, the senior among the heads of colleges at Cambridge, who has held the post of Vice-Chancellor, said that for undergraduates, whether of Oxford or Cambridge, to interfere with the recreation of people in London theatres was outrageous, and that there was no excuse to be found for such conduct.

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KAMO MARU Saturday, 11th February.
KATORI MARU Saturday, 25th February.
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.
MISHIMA MARU Wednesday, 22nd February.
TANGO MARU Wednesday, 21st March.
HOMBAY via Singapore, Penang, & Colombo.
MALACCA MARU Monday, 27th January.
TAMBA MARU Saturday, 11th February.
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Mexico & Panama.
GINYO MARU Monday, 6th February, 1928.
SOUTH AMERICA (East Coast) via Singapore, Cape Town & Ports.
KAWACHI MARU Wednesday, 29th February.
NEW YORK and/or BOSTON via PANAMA.
TATSUNO MARU Friday, 10th February.
LIVERPOOL via Singapore, Colombo, Port Said & Ports.
DELAGOA MARU Tuesday, 7th February.
CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON.
RANGUN MARU Tuesday, 31st January.
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
AKI MARU Friday, 17th February.
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
MATSUMOTO MARU Wednesday, 25th January.
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Tel. Central No. 292 (Private exchange to all departments.)



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From Marseilles

G. METZINGER 1st Feb.
SPHINX 15th Feb.
PORTHOS 29th Feb.
PAUL LECAT 14th Mar.

From Dunkirk, Antwerp, London

YANG TSE (Cargo) 27th Jan.
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S.S. "CITY OF KIMBERLEY" via Suez Canal 20th February.
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SHIPPING SECTION.

LOCAL SHIPPING.

TO-DAY'S ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

THIS MORNING'S LIST.

Empress of Canada (12,811) British, from Vancouver, Manila, Canadian Pacific—114 passengers, 106 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Anking (2,047) British from Singapore, Amoy, B. & S.—7 passengers, 850 tons of fire wood for Hong Kong.
Chenan (1,355) British, from Haiphong, Hoihow, B. & S.—28 passengers, 490 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 150 tons general (through).
Kalgan (1,556) British, from Bangkok, Swatow, B. & S.—9 passengers, 1,188 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 303 tons general (through).
West Niger (3,517) American, from Portland, Makata, Col. Pac. S.S. Co.—1,200 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 800 tons general (through).
Van Heutsz (2,749) Dutch, from Deli, Singapore, J.C.J.L.—577 passengers, 690 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 30 tons general (through).
Deli Maru (4,940) Japanese, from Canton, O.S.K.—675 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Atsuta Maru (1,293) Japanese, from Middlesbrough, Singapore, N.Y.K.—142 passengers, 933 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 5,640 tons general (through).
Hozan Maru (1,883) Japanese, from Keelung, Swatow, O.S.K.—150 passengers, 344 tons general cargo and 500 tons coal for Hong Kong.
Yuan Lee (1,661) Chinese from Saigon, Yuan Seng Fat, 38 passengers, 2,000 tons rice for Hong Kong, 20 tons general cargo (through).
Phranang (1,022) Chinese, from Pan Rang Bay, Chow Yue Teng—1,800 tons salt for Hong Kong.

Departures.

For Swatow:—Yat Sing.
For Manila:—Pres. Cleveland.
For Amoy:—Anhui.
For Hoihow:—Soon Ann.
For Shanghai:—Glenamoy.
For Canton:—Au Lee, Foo Lee.
Clearances.

For Kobe:—Neleus.
For Moji:—Yamaya Maru.
For Shanghai:—Pres. Lincoln.
Trollus, Emp. of Asia.
For Canton:—Kwong Sang.

Shipping Abstract.

	Arrivals	Departures	In Port
British	18	12	36
Japanese	10	9	8
Norwegian	3	2	9
Chinese	6	5	22
French	0	0	1
Dutch	2	0	6
French	0	2	0
American	3	2	2
Panama	0	0	1
Portuguese	0	0	2
	42	32	87

CONSIGNEES' NOTICE.

Consignees of Cargo ex a.s. "D'Artagnan" are advised that all claims must be sent in before January 30.

WORLD SHIPPING.

LLOYD'S ISSUE ANNUAL STATEMENT.

TONNAGE INCREASE.

London, Yesterday.
According to Lloyd's Register's annual summary of shipbuilding for 1927, 2,285,000 tons were launched throughout the world, of which 1,225,000 tons were built in Great Britain and Ireland, 289,000 in Germany, 179,000 in the United States, 119,000 in Holland.
The tonnage launched in Great Britain and Ireland increased by 586,000 compared with 1926; but the world total decreased 4,860,000 compared with the record year of 1919.
The world total includes 19 vessels each of over 10,000 tons, of which nine are over 15,000 tons each. 336 will be fitted with steam turbines and 864 with internal combustion engines.
The total steam tonnage launched throughout the world, namely, 1,375,000 include 470,000 fitted to burn oil fuel, so that out of the total world tonnage launched in 1927 only 905,000 will be exclusively dependent on coal for their propulsion.
The tonnage being constructed throughout the world at the end of the year was 3,119,000 tons an increase of 1,186,000 tons compared with the beginning of the year of which 820 in Great Britain and Ireland.
The world tonnage afloat on June, 1927, was 59,688,000 compared with 42,514,000 in June of 1914.
It is noteworthy that tankers increased from 1,479,000 to 5,916,000, motor-ships from 234,000 to 4,271,000 and steamers, fitted for oil fuel, from 1,310,000 to 18,500,000.—Reuter.

RUBBER THEFTS.

FURTHER STRAITS CAPTURES REPORTED.

Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 13.
The F.M.S. Customs Preventive fleet have been able to report three further captures of rubber smugglers during the past week. A telegram from the Kedidi reports the arrest of four Malays and the seizure of one prau and 25 piculs of rubber off the south west-coast of Johore.
A telegram from the Pikat, dated Jan. 6, reports the arrest of one Chinese, one kota and 540 piculs of rubber off the Johore coast, and a further message from the same commander, dated Jan. 11, reports the arrest of four Malays and the seizure of one prau and 12 piculs of rubber.
The following captures have also been made by export duty officers and police at Malacca:—
On Jan. 5, at Umbai; 240 piculs of rubber seized.
On Jan. 9, at Alor Gajah three Malays arrested for smuggling 174 piculs of rubber. They were each fined \$100.
On Jan. 9, at Bukit Larong, 155 piculs of rubber seized.
With reference to the report of the arrest of a Malay named Labu for being concerned in the smuggling 37.57 piculs of rubber, the case was heard at Telok Datoh on Jan. 10 before Inche Baki, Magistrate, when the accused was convicted and fined \$16,000 or 18 months' rigorous imprisonment.
The case against Lim Yu Cheong, the well-known towkay, who is being charged with being concerned in rubber smuggling, had been fixed for hearing at the Telok Datoh Magistrate's court on Jan. 17.

A RECORD OUTPUT.

Messrs. Swan, Hunter and Wigham Richardson, Wallsend-on-Tyne, have had a record output (181,224 tons), which for Tyne yards alone exceeds by about 30,000 tons the record year of 1906, when the "Mauretania" was built.
It is expected that the firm will capture the Blue Ribbon of shipbuilding. The firm has seventeen vessels building or to build at their Tyne yards, including four large meat and fruit carrying ships, six Canadian Lakes vessels, motor tankers, passenger and cargo boat.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Russia" which left Hong Kong on January 4 arrived at Vancouver on January 22.
The B. I. s.s. "Santhia" left Moji for this port on January 22 at a.m., and is due here to-morrow at about noon.
The P. & O. s.s. "Delta" left Shanghai for this port on January 21 at 12.30 p.m. with the Malls, and is due here to-morrow at about 7 a.m.
The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Australia" arrived Bombay on January 10 at 6.30 a.m. She is due at Hong Kong on February 10 at 8 a.m.

NEW C STEAMER.

LAUNCE DUCHESS OF D.

COMPANY.

...agby, Yesterday.
The new Canadian Pacific steamer, "Duchess of Bedford," for service between Liverpool and the St. Lawrence, was launched to-day by Mrs. Baldwin.
The Prime Minister was present, and at the subsequent luncheon, he referred to the immense part played by the Canadian Pacific Railway in the development of Canada. To it they owed the union and relation of Canada from East to West.—British Wireless Service.

BOATS COLLIDE.

N.Y.K. VESSELS SERIOUSLY DAMAGED.

The N.Y.K. steamers "Ohmi Maru" and "Kasuya Maru" collided yesterday morning inside the port of Moji.
Both vessels suffered serious damage.—Reuter.

SHIPPING COMBINES.

"INTERESTS OF COUNTRY BEING JEOPARDISED."

According to a Johannesburg message, General Hertzog (the Premier), speaking at a banquet there, said it was perfectly obvious to the Government that the people of South Africa were not receiving from the shipping combines the favourable consideration to which they were entitled. The Government was determined to make every attempt to end the manner in which the interests of the country were being jeopardised at present by the shipping combines, and felt it had a right to expect the assistance of the commercial community.
General Hertzog uttered a warning against any attempt from overseas to interfere in South African native affairs. If interference did not stop it might cost the Empire one day the greater part of what was to-day included in South Africa.

SHIPS' HOLDS.

M.P. AND POSITION AT LIVERPOOL DOCKS.

In the House of Commons, on December 15, Mr. Gibbins asked the Home Secretary whether, in view of the badly-lighted ships' holds in which men had to work, and which was the cause of a number of accidents at the Liverpool docks, he would take steps to have this state of affairs altered.
The Home Secretary.—The factory inspectors at Liverpool do not confirm this statement. None of the accidents at Liverpool docks during loading or unloading of ships which have been reported this year can be attributed to this cause. Adequate lighting is required by the docks regulations, and if the hon. member has any evidence showing that that requirement is not observed, I will have inquiry made.

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STEAMERS	Hong Kong	Shanghai	Kobe	Yokohama	Vancouver
	Leave	Leave	Leave	Leave	Arrive
EMPRESS OF CANADA	Feb. 15	Feb. 18	Feb. 21	Feb. 24	Mar. 4
EMPRESS OF RUSSIA	Mar. 7	Mar. 10	Mar. 13	Mar. 16	Mar. 25
EMPRESS OF ASIA	Mar. 28	Mar. 31	Apr. 3	Apr. 6	Apr. 15
EMPRESS OF CANADA	Apr. 18	Apr. 21	Apr. 24	Apr. 27	May 6
EMPRESS OF RUSSIA	May 9	May 12	May 15	May 18	May 27
EMPRESS OF ASIA	May 30	June 2	June 5	June 8	June 17
EMPRESS OF CANADA	June 20	June 23	June 26	June 29	July 6

(E/Asia and E/Russia call at Nagasaki the day after departure from Shanghai)

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Hong Kong	Manila	Manila	Hong Kong
Feb. 24	Feb. 26	EMPRESS OF RUSSIA	Mar. 3
Mar. 16	Mar. 18	EMPRESS OF ASIA	Mar. 24

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SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP—Via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and Port Said.
ATLAS MARU Friday, 3rd February.
RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS & BUENOS AIRES—Via Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Durban & Cape Town.
MONTEVIDEO MARU Friday, 10th February.
BOMBAY—Via Singapore and Colombo.
HONOLULU MARU Friday, 3rd February.
* (both calls at Karachi).
SHINGO MARU Thursday, 9th February.
SHINNOH MARU Monday, 20th February.
DURBAN, DELAGOA BAY, BEIRA, DAR-ES-SALAAM, ZANZIBAR AND MOMBASA—Via Singapore and Colombo.
CHICAGO MARU Tuesday, 31st January.
CALCUTTA—Via Singapore, Penang and Rangoon.
SEATTLE MARU Friday, 27th January.
KASADO MARU Saturday, 25th February.
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA & VANCOUVER Via Japan Ports.
ARABIA MARU (From Shanghai) Tuesday, 7th February.
HAIPHONG—Via Hoihow & PAKHOI.
TAIKWA MARU Tuesday, 31st January, 10 a.m.
MENADO MARU Tuesday, 14th February, 10 a.m.
NEW YORK—Via Japan ports, San Francisco & Panama.
HAVANA MARU Friday, 6th January.
JAPAN PORTS
CELEBES MARU Sunday, 5th February.
KEELUNG Via SWATOW & AMOY.
HOZAN MARU Sunday, 29th January, 11 a.m.
MENADO MARU Wednesday, 1st Feb., 10 a.m.
KAIJO MARU Sunday, 5th Feb., 11 a.m.
TAKAO Via SWATOW & AMOY.
DELI MARU Thursday, 26th January, 10 a.m.
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S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong About	Destination
DELTA	8,097	27th Jan.	Straits and Bombay
MALWA	10,486	4th Feb.	Marseilles & London
KHYBER	9,114	18th Feb.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
NILGIRI	9,359	25th Feb.	Marseilles & London
KIDDERPORE	5,334	20th Feb.	Straits & Bombay
MACEDONIA	11,120	3rd Mar.	Marseilles & London
KASHMIR	9,136	10th Mar.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
KARMALA	8,085	17th Mar.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
MAINTUA	9,128	24th Mar.	Marseilles & London
KALYAN	10,916	31st Mar.	Marseilles & London
MONGOLIA	9,144	7th Apr.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
KASHGAR	10,953	14th Apr.	Marseilles & London
MAIWA	10,086	21st Apr.	Marseilles & London
DEVANHA	8,156	28th Apr.	Marseilles & London
MACEDONIA	11,120	5th May	Marseilles & London

* Passengers to Singapore only. Limited accommodation available for 2nd class passengers from Hong Kong to London.
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BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS.

SANTHA	7,764	27th Jan.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TAKAIA	6,049	12th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TALAMBA	8,018	26th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta

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EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

ARAFURA	5,000	27th Jan.	Manila, Port Holland, Sandakan,
TANDA	6,956	2nd Mar.	Thursday Island, Townsville, Bris-
ST. ALBANS	4,500	30th Mar.	bane, Sydney & Melbourne.

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The P. & O. Branch Service of steamers to London via the Cape.
The New Zealand Shipping Company's steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

*KIDDERPORE	5,334	2nd Feb.	Moji & Kobe
KHIVA	9,135	3rd Feb.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe
MACEDONIA	11,120	4th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
TANDA	6,956	11th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KALAMIA	8,018	12th Feb.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka
KASHMIR	8,085	18th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KALYAN	9,144	18th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe
TILAWA	10,000	20th Feb.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka
MAINTUA	10,916	2nd Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
ST. ALBANS	4,500	6th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
*KIDDERPORE	5,334	13th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MACEDONIA	11,120	17th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KASHMIR	8,085	18th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KALYAN	9,144	18th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MAINTUA	10,916	27th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
DEVANHA	8,156	11th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MACEDONIA	11,120	25th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama

* Cargo only.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

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SAILINGS FROM HONG KONG.

S.S. "CITY OF KIMBERLEY"	Via Suez Canal	20th Feb.
S.S. "LYCAON"	Via Suez Canal	9th Mar.
S.S. "CITY OF ADELAIDE"	Via Suez Canal	23rd Mar.
S.S. "RHESUS"	Via Suez Canal	6th Apr.
S.S. "CITY OF DUNKIRK"	Via Suez Canal	20th Apr.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Panama Canal at Owners' Option.

Subject to change without notice.

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DAMAGE TO DOCKS.

HOUSE OF LORDS JUDGMENT FOR G.W.R. CO.

SHIPOWNERS' LIABILITY.

In the House of Lords, Viscounts Haldane and Dundee and Lords Shaw, Phillimore, and Blanesburgh (with Admiral Sir Arthur Moystyn Field, K.C.B., and Captain Owen Jones, C.B.E., as nautical assessors), by a majority allowed the appeal of the Great Western Railway Co., which arose out of their action against the owners of the steamer "Mostyn" to recover £226 4s. 6d. in respect of damage done to the Swansea harbour, dock or pier and works connected therewith, of which the appellants were the undertakers.

The "Mostyn" of Newport, Mon., was endeavouring to pass from the King's Dock into the Prince of Wales Dock on the night of October 29, 1923, when a small vessel in front got hung up. A high wind was blowing at the time, and to prevent her hitting the quay the "Mostyn" dropped the port anchor at a spot between 200 and 300 feet away from the entrance to the communication passage. Subsequently when the "Mostyn" commenced to go ahead with her engines and to heave on her anchor, the anchor fouled and damaged the telegraphic cable belonging to the Postmaster General and the electrical cables belonging to the appellants.

Previous Judgments.

The President of the Admiralty Division, whose judgment was affirmed by the Court of Appeal, held that there was no negligence on board the "Mostyn," and that where negligence was disproved the Harbour Docks and Piers Clauses Act, 1847, did not confer on the appellants any new right of action. Against that decision the railway company appealed to the House of Lords.

Viscount Haldane, in moving that the appeal should be allowed, said that, reading the evidence as a whole, he had come to the clear conclusion that negligent navigation had not been established. The question their Lordships had to answer was whether, in a case in which neither negligence nor any other act of an unlawful nature had been established, Section 74 of the Act of 1847 made the owners answerable for the damage done in this case to the dock. In the case of the owner the section did not in terms require any wrongful act to be established as the condition of liability.

Owner Liable.

The words, taken by themselves, were unambiguous. The owner was to be liable for any damage done to the undertaking. If the language of this section could legitimately be construed by their Lordships without regard to authority, he should find difficulty in saying that the appellants were not entitled to claim that it applied. It had been said that to take this view was to attribute to Parliament an intention which was hardly conceivable, the intention of making people liable for damage where they had been in no way to blame, but he was unable to say what the motives of Parliament were; they did not know and could not inquire. It might be that it desired to encourage undertakers of this class by providing insurance at the cost of owners who were in no way to blame.

There were instances of such a principle in modern Statutes, such as the Workmen's Compensation Acts, and it might be that it was something analogous that was in the mind of the Legislature. But it had been established by a decision which was binding on the House of Lords that the language must be interpreted as subject to some qualification which was implicit in the words, and the question which alone they were free and bound to examine was what this qualification was and how far it extended. He referred to the case of *Adamson v. Wear Commissioners* (1 Q.B.D. 546, and A.C. 743).

Bound By Precedent.

He did not think that the River Wear case settled the point of non-liability where the vessel was in charge, at the time of the accident, of the owners' agents. It seemed to him that the words of the Statute were too clear to admit of this conclusion. Their Lordships appeared to be bound by the authority of the River Wear case to hold that the section in question was not to be read literally, but as applying when the damage complained of had been brought about by a vessel under the direction of the owner or his agents, whether negligent or not. The decision further exempted the owner when the vessel was not under such control but was derelict. When there were facts to which it applied it effected an alteration in the common law which imposed a new liability to be sued on the owner, and to that extent changed not merely procedure but also substantive law.

Lord Shaw and Blanesburgh concurred. Viscount Dundee, who dissented, said he took the view that damage must be actionable damage, and that, therefore, in the present case the owner was not liable. If their Lordships agreed with his view there would, at least, be a clear rule for the future.

Lord Phillimore concurred.

The appeal was allowed, with costs.

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SHIPBUILDING.

MANY NEW ORDERS.

Some substantial new shipbuilding contracts have been announced recently, in addition to the big order placed by Messrs. Haldin and Co., London, for five cargo steamers, each of about 10,000 tons. Two of these boats are to be built at Walker by Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co., two at Howdon by the Northumberland Shipbuilding Co., and the fifth at Govan by the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Co.

Messrs. J. and J. Denholm, of Glasgow, have ordered a cargo steamer of 8,500 tons deadweight from Scott's Shipbuilding and Engineering Co., Greenock, and another Glasgow shipbuilding firm, Messrs. Raeburn and Verel, managers of the Monarch Line, have ordered a vessel of somewhat similar tonnage from Messrs. D. and W. Henderson and Co., also of Glasgow. The Northumberland Shipping Co., which, in addition to the two 10,000-ton Haldin boats, recently received an order from Messrs. Morel, of Cardiff, to construct a cargo steamer of about 9,000 tons, is to build a second vessel, of the same size, for these same Cardiff owners.

Other notable new contracts placed with British yards include one which Messrs. Lithgow, of Port Glasgow, have received from Messrs. P. Henderson and Co., managers of the Henderson Line, Glasgow. This vessel is to be a cargo steamer of about 6,700 tons carrying capacity, and is for service between Glasgow and the Near East. Messrs. John Readhead and Sons, South Shields, are to build three steamers, each of about 8,000 tons deadweight, for owners at present unnamed, and Messrs. William Gray and Co., West Hartlepool, are to construct a steamer of about 8,500 tons deadweight for Messrs. John Cory and Sons, Cardiff.

TRIBUTE TO MR. HOLT

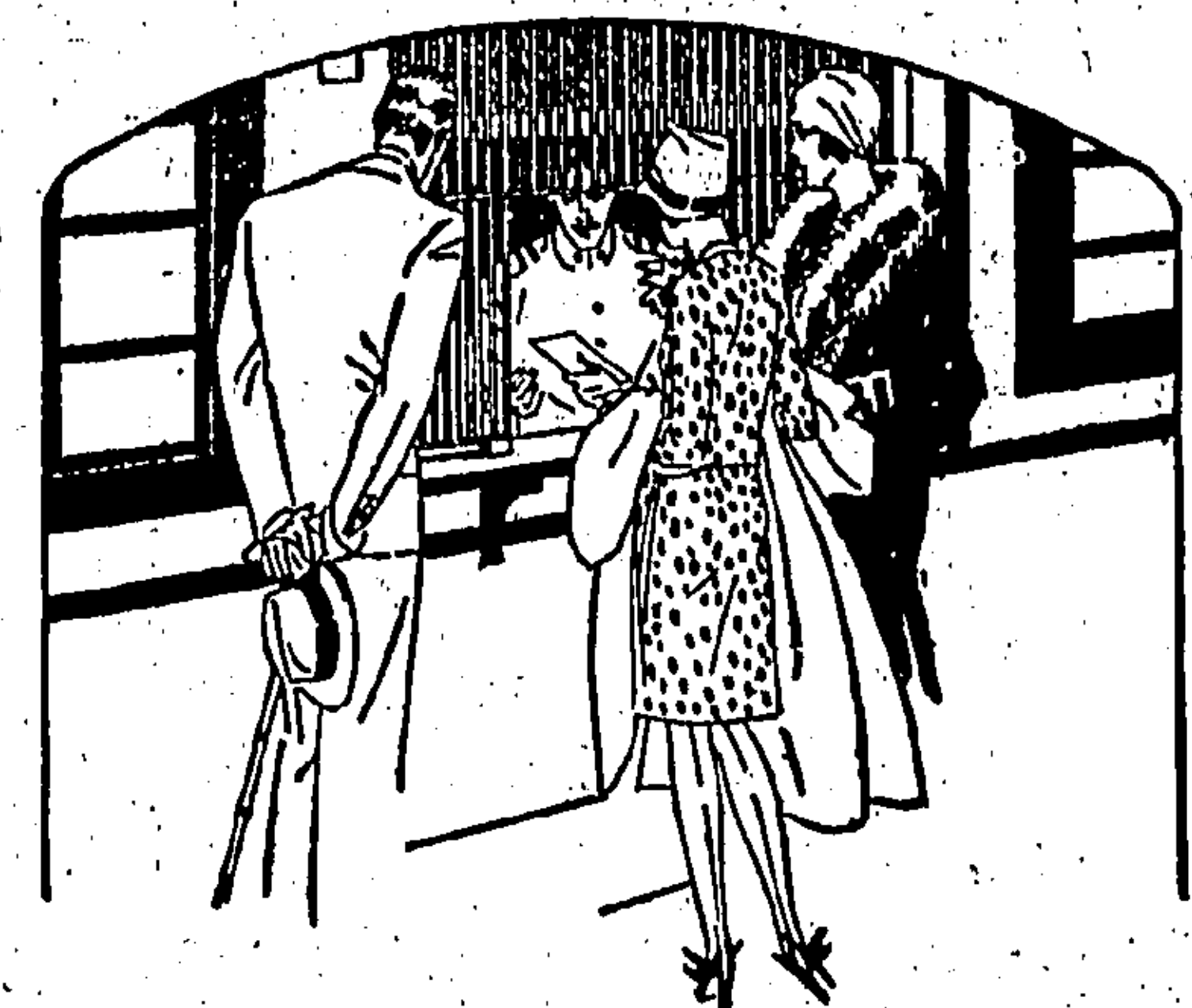
MERSEY DOCKS AND HARBOUR BOARD.

The Mersey Docks and Harbour Board held its weekly meeting when Mr. R. D. Holt presided on December 15.

Mr. Bibby said it was his great pleasure to move:—"That the cordial thanks of the Board be presented to Mr. Richard D. Holt for the ability and zeal with which he has discharged the duties which have devolved upon him since his appointment as their chairman, and for his attention to all matters connected with the business of the Board, as well as for the courtesy shown by him to the members."

Mr. Beazley seconded, and the resolution was adopted.

The Chairman said he was very much indebted to Mr. Bibby and to Mr. Beazley for proposing and seconding the vote of thanks, and to the members for accepting it.



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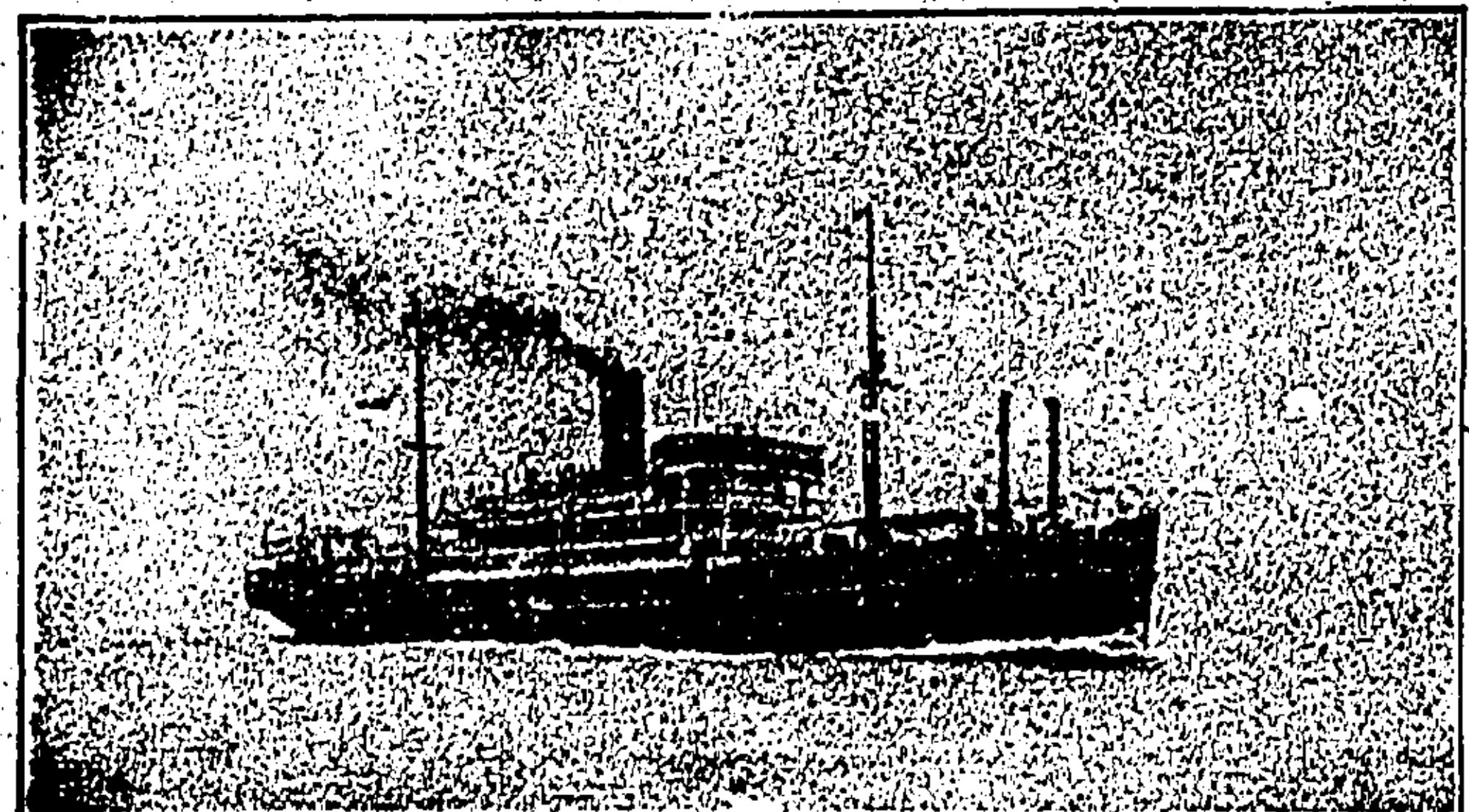
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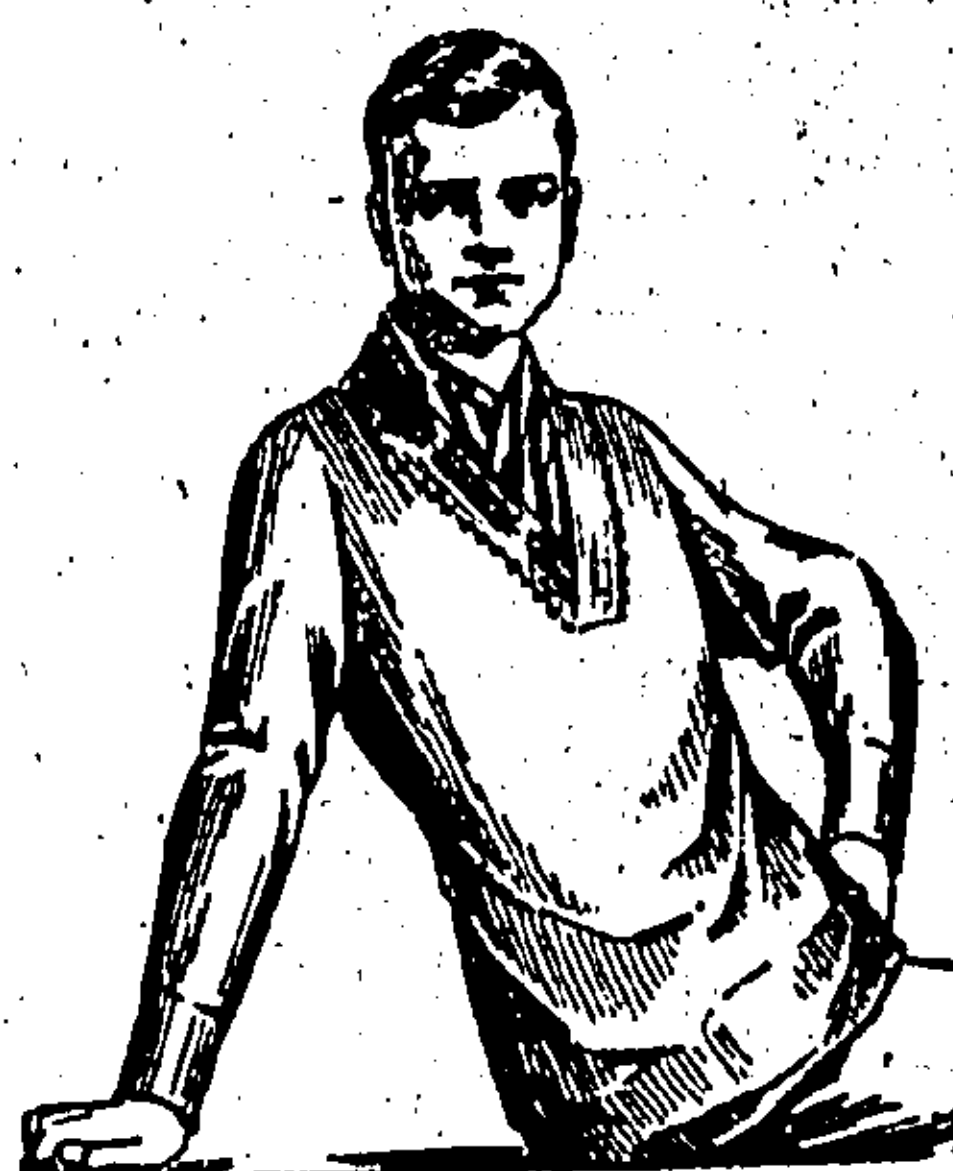
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DEATH.

HUTCHISON.—On December 27,
1927, in London, Helen Mary
Hutchison (née Chalmers),
wife of the late John D.
Hutchison.

Hong Kong, Wednesday, Jan. 25, 1928.

THE CIVIL SERVANT.

It has been said that the Colonial Civil Servant is one of the most self-assured individuals in the world and that as a class in this respect they are all alike. This is so, but the critics, instead of utilising the truism as a sneer, would do well to pause and consider why the Colonial Servant really possesses this self-assurance. The fact of the matter is that the people we are discussing simply have to be self-assured. They must have that sublime faith in themselves which will move mountains. They must be prepared, at a moment's notice, to undertake any of the multitudinous tasks that fall to the lot of a Colonial Government, or if not prepared they must face the world as if they were. A Police Magistrate one day and a Fire Brigade chief the next, or perhaps suddenly thrown into the secretaryship of a department full of technicalities and intricacies, they must, very early in their career, impress upon themselves their lasting ability. Heaven sent or otherwise, to do anything that comes along. If not, they would rank as failures.

Reflections such as the above on the Colonial Civil Service are prompted by a Press agitation which is taking place in the Straits Settlements. There, it appears, the chief of the Postal Department is retiring and it is felt in some quarters down there

that a business man, preferably a Postal expert, should be given the job instead of a Civil Servant more or less automatically stepping into it. In no way, we would add, is the ability of Government officials questioned. The journal making the plea for the appointment of an outsider, in fact, pauses at sufficient length to give the Civil Servant a handsome pat on the back. What is felt, apparently, is that the Postal Department is so intimately connected with the business life of the Colony that nothing short of an expert in Postal matters would be able efficiently to fill the bill. A Civil Servant, of course, would take over the post with all that self-assurance about which we have spoken and carry on his duties without incurring dissatisfaction. The point, it seems, the Straits journal seeks to make is that this department is one that will function at its best under the guidance of an outsider rather than in the hands of a local official.

This particular problem, of course, is one that concerns us not at all, and our neighbours must be left to accomplish their own governmental salvation. It does, however, open up the question of the apparently indiscriminate pitchforking that prevails in the Colonial Civil Service, a practice full of bad points, not the least of which is that as soon as an official has been in a position long enough to understand his work, he is invariably shunted to another department. The exigencies of life in the Far East to a great extent, of course, account for this undesirable procedure. If an official falls sick or goes on leave someone from some other pigeon hole of the service has to take his place. And while appreciating these and other difficulties that beset the path of Colonial administration we may, perhaps with profit, ponder over the contention advanced by our Singapore contemporary.

KNOCKED DOWN.

Lee Yung, a coolie employed by the Wong Chun-han firm of contractors was yesterday removed to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from injuries received through being knocked down in Aberdeen by motor car No. 2 owned by the Dragon Garage.

The Hospital Comforts Committee begs to acknowledge receipt of parcels of literature from Mrs. Langston and Mrs. Fryde.

SNOBS & SNOBBERY.

A MAN A GENTLEMAN
OR NOT.

IDEAL OF NOBLY BORN.

Even in the early eighteenth century a man was either a gentleman or he was not. Henry Fielding set his Tom Jones in a world of assured social values, where gentlemen could kick rude fellows with impunity, chuck pretty servant girls under the chin, and expect the reverence which their station merited.

Nous avons changé tout cela. The Industrial Revolution made manufacturers as powerful and picturesque as baronets; the French Revolution set men talking about human equality; the profiteer's daughter, lying upon silk mattresses bought with the spoils of the Napoleonic Wars, felt her skin as delicate as that of the real Princess who was agonised by a pea. Between upper dog and under dog, middle dog, uncertain, sensitive, and apprehensive, was creeping in.

Respectability of birth, wealth and manners became the ideal not merely of the nobly born, but of the common man. The soldier of fortune carried a field-marshal's baton in his haversack. Gentle Jane, who was good as gold, and always did as she was told, as a final reward of virtue.

"When she grew up was given in marriage

To a noble earl who kept his carriage."

Why not? Stranger things have happened. "It is impossible for any Briton, perhaps, not to be a snob in some degree," wrote Thackeray, and knew well what he wrote. Mr. Marrowfat, "a man of great powers, excellent heart and varied information," damned himself socially by eating peas with his knife. That pea again! With what virtue has Nature endowed it that it should be repeatedly the test of breeding? Commoners cringed before peers; Mrs. Ellis of Clapham, devoured the report of Miss Snobky's dress in the Court Circular; the "private plushes" a letter addressed to "My Dear Duke" there were clerical snobs, Continental snobs, country snobs, club snobs, university snobs, and respectable snobs, and Thackeray chastised them all. "I am sick of Court Circulars. I loathe the haut-ton intelligence," he cried. Well, any intelligence, high or low-toned, is welcome nowadays.

Jane Austen's quiet glance rested on similar people. Sir Walter Elliot of Kellynch Hall, was a man who, for his own amusement, never took up any book but the Baronetage. It was a snobbery concern only with birth and property. Mrs. John Dashwood, in "Sense and Sensibility," saw her sister-in-law's packages depart with a sigh. "She could not help feeling it hard that, as Mrs. Dashwood's income would be so trifling in comparison with her own, she should have any handsome article of furniture."—Winifred Holtby, in "Eve."

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS MADE SINCE 1897.

SUNSPOT PERIOD.

Addressing members of the Brisbane Grammar School Old Boys' Association on the subject of "Weather Forecasts," Mr. Inigo Jones said that since starting his solar observations in 1887 he had noticed a number of repetitions in the weather changes every 34 years, and at present there seemed to be very strong evidence of such repetition. In fact, the storm which had occurred in cycle a storm which had occurred on October 11, 1873. If sunspots were not the cause of such repetitions, it became necessary for us to find out what those spots were, and what caused them; and in that connection a great deal of work had been done with strong instruments in America. The sunspot period was about 11 years, and it had been shown by some observations to be as long as 11.86 years. The present was, perhaps, the most active sunspot period since 1893. When a spot was particularly active in producing weather changes, its magnetic propensity was very high. If it could be arranged to have dispatched daily to Australia from Mount Wilson (America) Observatory, by cable code, the magnetic correlation, it would be possible in this way to give weather forecasts for Queensland and Australia. The speaker did not agree with the supposition that heat was necessarily followed by rain. Whereas the rain was caused by a group of sunspots, the heat might be caused by only one spot.

LATE MRS. WILSON.

FUNERAL OF INSPECTOR'S
WIFE.

LARGE ATTENDANCE.

A large number of friends were present at the funeral of Mrs. Helen Wilson, wife of Inspector W. E. Wilson, at the Protestant Cemetery, Happy Valley, on Monday. They included:—Mr. T. H. King, D.C.I., Mr. W. Kent, A.S.P., Mr. P. Grant, A.C.I., Inspectors Spear and D. MacDonald, and many other members of the Hong Kong Police Force and civilians. The Rev. Mr. W. R. Cannell officiated.

Floral tributes were sent by the following:—Sorrowing Husband, William; Mother, Sister Blanche and Brother Tom; Nan, Colin and Bessie; Margaret Mary Logan; European Officers, No. 2 Station; Interpreters and Detectives, No. 2 Station; European Officers, No. 2 Station; Inspectors' Mess, Water Police; The Lance-Sergets' Mess, Water Police Station; Lance-Sergets' Mess, Central Police Station; Sergis, Mong Kok Taut Police Station; Lai Chi Kok Branch Prison; European Revenue Officers' Mess; Royal Naval Yard Police.

Mrs. Kirby; Two Friends at 61A, Wong Nei Chong Road; Francis Waters. Inspector P. Grant; Mr. Spear; Inspector Lannigan, Sergt. Kellett and Sergt. O'Connell (New Fire Station); Sergis, Feely and Baker (Praya East Police Station); Sergt. R. McFall; B. Oxberry; A. A. Crestejo and family; Mr. H. Blackford; C. Greenwood; D. D. Shank; D. Reid; C. Harman; C. A. Goldenberg; M. Mc. Carthy; R. A. Smith; T. Williams and J. I. Ross; Capt. F. C. Norvik; Mr. W. S. Cuff.

The Hon. Mr. and Mrs. E. D. C. Wolfe; Mr. and Mrs. W. Kent and family; Mr. and Mrs. W. MacDonald (No. 2 Police Station); Mr. and Mrs. Lane; Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Reynolds and family; Inspector and Mrs. Marks; Mr. and Mrs. P. Lannigan; Mr. and Mrs. Hunt and family; Mr. and Mrs. Hynes; Mr. and Mrs. Beattie; Mr. and Mrs. Fowler; Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Coleman; Mr. and Mrs. A. Palmer; Mr. and Mrs. Pankhurst; Mr. and Mrs. Murphy; Mr. and Mrs. Grimmit and family; Mr. and Mrs. B. Thorpe; Mr. and Mrs. Wiltshire and family; Mr. and Mrs. George and family; Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins; Mr. and Mrs. Carey; Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Brooks; Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Langley; Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Moss; Mr. and Mrs. C. Bennett; Mr. and Mrs. McMahon; Mr. and Mrs. G. Guimant; Inspector and Mrs. Murphy; Inspector and Mrs. Phellis; Mr. and Mrs. E. Bloor; Mr. and Mrs. Glendinning and family; Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Foster; Mr. and Mrs. M. Blake; Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Watt; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Wadmore; Mr. and Mrs. Bennett; Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Lowman; Mr. and Mrs. Winyard; Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Coleman; Mr. and Mrs. Sorby; Sergt. and Mrs. Goodlace; Mr. and Mrs. S. Kelly; Mr. and Mrs. Millington and family; Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Wick; Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson; Mr. and Mrs. H. Ching; Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Alexander.

LOCAL WEDDING.

MR. K. S. ROBERTSON AND
MISS C. B. RUSSELL.

A pretty wedding took place at the Union Church, yesterday afternoon, when Miss Catherine Buchanan Russell, daughter of Mr. W. Russell, Government Marine Surveyor, and of the late Mrs. Russell, became the bride of Mr. Kenneth Struan Robertson, of the Public Works Department.

The Rev. J. Kirk Macdonachie officiated, whilst Mr. G. E. Longyear presided at the organ. Lohengrin's March was played as the bridal couple entered the Church and during the ceremony the hymns "The Voice That Breathed O'er Eden" and "O Perfect Love." The service was concluded with Mendelssohn's Wedding March.

The bride, who was given away by her father, was charmingly attired in a dress of ivory charmeuse, designed on period lines. She wore a veil trimmed with orange blossom and carried a bouquet of cream roses.

Miss Bertha Tarrant was the bridesmaid. She wore a dress of blue and pink tulle with a Leghorn blossom and carried a bouquet of Sweet Peas.

The duties of Matron of Honour were discharged by Mrs. A. T. Hamilton, who was attired in a dress of Bois de Rose with a velvet hat to match. She carried a bouquet of pink roses.

The best man was Mr. J. H. Bottomley.

After the reception, which was held at the Hong Kong Hotel, the couple left for Repulse Bay, the bride's going-away dress being of beige charmeuse with coat of match and a lace hat. They leave the Colony to-day on board the s.s. "Empress of Asia" for their honeymoon which will be spent in Canada and Europe.

Mr. R. W. Grant, who has been Resident of Labuan since August, 1925, has not been transferred to Klang as Assistant District Officer, as originally arranged, but is now attached to the Colonial Secretariat in Singapore.

PRAPS PRAPS NOT!

Story for Burns's Dinner to-night: Robbie Burns on the new Lord Iveagh: "The rank is but the Guineas stamp; A man's a man for a' that."

"Policeman, that ruffian took my wife's arm!" "All right, sir, we'll search him at the station."

"Bobby, I'm surprised. This note from your teacher says you're the last boy in a class of twenty-five!" said his mother. "Well, I could be worse." "I don't see how." "Well, it might have been a bigger class."

"What's the idea of racing through this town at sixty miles an hour?" asked the policeman. "Well, you see," said the motor cyclist, "I've got something the matter with my brakes, and I want to get home before I have an accident."

A rag and bone man was trudging wearily along a road carrying a bag of old iron, lead pipe and brass.

Suddenly a woman at a fifth-floor window managed to attract his attention. "Hi! Come up here!" she shouted.

The man climbed slowly up the five flights of stairs with his heavy bag. When at last, puffing and blowing, he got to the fifth floor the woman exclaimed:—

"Say, mister, won't you put my little Tommy in your bag if he isn't a good boy?"

"Can you spare a copper, kind lady, to a fellow who hasn't got a penny in the world?" "Certainly. Have you change for a shilling?"

"You n-never seem to t-take any interest in anything I do," sobbed the bride.

"Don't be unreasonable, my dear," remonstrated her husband. "I remained awake all last night and wondered what you put in that cake you made."

A small boy found the following sentence in his grammar examination: "The horse and the cow is in the field." He was told to correct it and give his reason for the correction. He wrote:— "The cow and horse is in the field." Ladies should always come first.

Tommy had done a map for homework, and was proudly showing it to the teacher next morning. "But, Tommy," she asked, "why have you left a space between the sea and the land along the East Coast?"

"Please, teacher, 'cos the tide was out," was the reply.

Mistress: "Why don't you light the fire?" Maid: "Because there's no coal." Mistress: "Why didn't you let me know before?" Maid: "Because we had some before."

Freshman, to witty partner: "Why do so many men at the 'Varsity wear torn and shabby gowns?"

Witty Partner: "Well, you must remember the undergrad has always had a weakness for rags."

"I hardly knew your father to-day," said the district visitor pleasantly to the little girl of the house; "he has cut his beard again. That's the third time in a year."

"It ain't father what's done it," explained the child. "Father likes his beard on, but you see, mother's stuffing the sofa!"

Rector: "How is it I never see you in church on Sundays, Mr. Shooter?"

Gamekeeper: "Well, sir, I don't want to make your congregation smaller!"

Rector: "Make it smaller; what ever do you mean?"

Gamekeeper: "Why, sir, if I came to church half the others would be out poachin'!"

Mistress: "Have you finished cleaning the brasses, yet?" Maid (under notice): "Yes, madam—all except the rings and bracelets!"

Magistrate (about to commit for trial): "You certainly effected the robbery in a remarkably ingenious way—in fact, with quite exceptional cunning."

Prisoner, (deprecatingly): "No flattery, yer Honour—no flattery, I beg on yer."

Fat met a man one day in the town who exclaimed: "Well, Fat, have you seen Mike lately?" "Well," replied Fat, "I was going down the street the other day and I thought I saw him; and the thought he saw me, but when we got close together it was neither of us."

BRITAIN & AMERICA.

STRENGTHENING THE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP.

AN IMPORTANT ADDRESS.

At its inaugural luncheon at the Midland Hotel on November 15, the Manchester Branch of the English Speaking Union entertained Sir Auckland Geddes, Lord Derby (President of the Branch) took the chair, and there were over 230 members present.

Mr. E. Raymond Street, the honorary secretary, read letters of congratulation from Mr. John W. Davies, chairman of the English-speaking Union in the United States; the Marquis of Reading, chairman of the Central Committee of the English-speaking Union; and Sir Campbell Stuart.

Lord Derby (reported the "Manchester Guardian"), in proposing the health of Sir Auckland Geddes, said they could already congratulate themselves on the success of the Manchester branch. They had asked Sir Auckland Geddes to be their guest that day because for many difficult years he was British Ambassador in the United States and because they felt that in him they had a man who had carried a message of goodwill from this country to the United States and who did much in that country to make the people—and it was sometimes rather difficult to realise that we were in no way hostile to them. Sir Auckland was in America in many difficult and dangerous months, and, thanks to his courage and foresight he left America and England, when his term of office came to an end, better friends than they had been before his arrival there.

Lord Derby said he was one of those who believed in trying to get the people of different countries to understand each other, in the hope and belief that if the people understood each other the Governments might do so. (Laughter.) If they could cultivate good feeling between any two nations—to take the two in which he was most interested, France and the United States of America—they might do far more for the good of peace and consequent prosperity than by continually preaching universal peace. By trying to get each nation to understand us and to get our people to understand other nations we should also make the task of our own Government much easier. The English-speaking Union was an entirely non-political body, pledged to help any Government in power that would help to foster these mutual good relations.

A Main Pillar of Peace.

Sir Auckland Geddes said there was nothing our nation needed more at the present time than peace, and not only at the present time, but indefinitely through the years. Those present, he took it, realised also that one of the secure pillars of such a long-enduring peace must be friendship and co-operation between this country and the United States of America, and that such co-operation, such friendship could only be based upon a mutual respect and understanding. He knew that many in this country did not understand the United States, that many citizens of the United States did not understand the point of view of this country; and it was necessary that we should meet one another as we passed backward and forward across the Atlantic in order that understanding might grow and deepen. A society such as the English-speaking Union could do good work in developing, fostering, and strengthening understanding.

"But in all working for peace between nations," Sir Auckland continued, "there are difficulties. Some individuals become so obsessed with their own ideas how best to secure understanding and co-operation that unless what they think is right be done precisely, they are apt to throw up their hands in despair."

"We have got to recover lost ground. We have got to realise that there are influences in the United States which are not desirable that lost ground should be recovered. I know as well as anybody how strong the feeling is among Americans for friendship and co-operation with the British Empire throughout the world. I know that there is another section in America different in origin, who have not those feelings at all. And I know that there is a large body of the American people who really do not think about these things at any time."

A Language Quibble.

"It is so easy to give understanding a setback. The very name of this society, simple, obvious as it appears to us—the English-speaking Union, simple and obvious as it appeared to those Americans who were associated with its inauguration and foundation, is a cause of offence to certain sections of the American population. They will tell you with heat that they do not speak English—they speak United States. (Laughter.) And they do. (Laughter.) And the very thought that somebody is

trying to use a lever, whose existence they wish to deny, to persuade their nation to do something which it otherwise might not do is enough to create in them a feeling of resistance to what is proposed."

"It is necessary to walk warily. It is necessary to remember that understanding is not easily achieved. It is necessary to assume that it does not exist until the contrary is proved. The average American point of view is so different from ours. They are a great population of mixed European origin, full of energy, full of vitality, achieving great things in every direction. For they are a wonderful people. (Hear, hear.) They differ from us in their whole background. There is no deep scar through their minds as there is through ours as the result of the war. They were in it a much shorter time; they were farther from it. Their casualties, heavy as they were on the units which fought so gallantly in France, were, on the nation, slight. They have not got what we have, a post-war mentality. Theirs is a pre-war mentality, and I often wish ours was a little more pre-war and a little less post-war. (Hear, hear.)"

Our Preponderance of Women.

"Another great difference: their population does not fill their country. Ours more than fills ours. In this country we have, as a result of many causes, a great surplus of women. America has not; and until you have lived, as I have lived in the very heart of the two peoples—for I knew America well long before I was there in any official capacity—you do not realise what a difference the preponderance of women in this country makes to our national outlook."

"The influence of that mass of voters affects our whole life. There is nothing comparable in America, and things that we do every day, things that our Parliament passes almost as inevitable, shock the differently constituted American opinion. These differences make understanding often very difficult. I do not know how often I have heard in the United States of the decadence of England. All the unemployment benefit that has been paid has shocked and horrified many of our warmest American friends. They do not understand our difficulties, nor we the different point of view which is forced on them by their sturdy individualism."

Continuing, Sir Auckland said that a trade union leader who had been in the United States to see members of his union who had migrated to that country, when asked by him how they liked the conditions under which they were working there, replied that they could not feel at home because the point of view of the people there was so different. Here wages were lower, but if a man fell sick or got into trouble there were many agencies available to help him, whilst in America there was nothing of the sort and they felt as if they were in a hostile atmosphere. It was not, of course, hostile to men either as individuals or as men from this country; it was just the social atmosphere that was different.

Vital Differences. These things had nearly everything to do with international peace. We in this country with our overcrowded population, with our more feminine point of view, were dependent on world trade to maintain our population. To Americans, with a stoutly individualistic population still exploiting the virgin resources of a continent, overseas trade was something of a luxury. And when we talked of protecting our trade and of doing this, that, or the other thing to foster our trade overseas, they thought of it as they thought of their own trade—as something of a luxury super-added to their own immediate requirements and therefore super-added to our requirements.

They did not, in the mass, understand us or our needs at all; and we, in the mass, did not really understand them or their needs at all. He therefore begged the members of the Manchester branch to do all they could as occasion offered to get Americans to understand what our points of view necessarily and inevitably were, and at the same time to try to understand what American points of view necessarily and inevitably were. Thus we might hope to get some increase in that understanding which, coupled with the mutual respect which did exist, would make co-operation between our nations sure and certain. (Hear, hear.) For there was nothing in the world to-day better worth working for than close, willing, whole-hearted co-operation between the people of the United States of America and the polyglot peoples of the British Empire. (Applause.)

A Beau Geste.

Lord Derby, responding to the toast of his health, proposed by Mr. W. E. Thompson, chairman of the Committee of the Branch, said that a close relationship between the two countries meant a great deal to us at the present moment, and his belief was that before many de-

AMATEUR ACTORS.

MANY PITFALLS THAT ABOUND.

FULL OF HUMOUR.

We are entering the season of amateur theatricals. Within the next few months performance will take place in country houses, local town halls, and village school-rooms up and down England.

The cynic who said that only the players enjoy amateur theatricals was wrong. There is humour in such performances always, much of it unconscious and unintentional.

At one country house entertainment recently the heroine—it was melodrama—had to rush across the stage, bang wildly with her fists on a shut door, at the same time screaming at the top of her voice, "Save me, George—save me! The door is locked! It's LOCKED!"

But on the first night it was not locked, and it flew open and she fell in. Instantly the house was convulsed, while the unfortunate girl, strung up to the highest pitch and at a loss what to do in that moment of crisis, suddenly burst into tears and ran off the stage.

On another occasion, in a similar play, the leading lady was supposed to have been chased through a dense wood by two murderous villains; the back-cloth showed you how thick was the undergrowth, a mass of thorny bushes and tangled brambles. Yet she emerged from it without a hair of her head out of place, while the gossamer frock which she wore, and that would certainly have been torn to shreds in the first few yards of her frenzied flight, was not even rumpled.

In that same play we had a sporting scene—a big pheasant shoot. A small of fireworks accompanied the shots fired up into the air by young men in plus-fours, and presently the beaters appeared, all carrying rabbits. Said my neighbour in an aside: "I may be mistaken, but I always imagined that rabbits ran along the ground."

On the second night this oversight was rectified. But then even worse happened. The beaters appeared carrying each a brace of pheasants, but each brace still had the poultterer's label tied round its neck.

At one amateur show there was in the orchestra a drummer engaged out of a pantomime orchestra. Every night for weeks he had hit his big drum when the low comedian fell on his back—the fall was the drummer's cue. But one was a serious play, highbrow to a degree. A monarch, famous in history, had just read a solemn proclamation to his people, and was about to descend from his throne when he accidentally tripped over his robes and fell.

Bang! went the big drum, and the audience became hysterical. I once saw an amateur performance of a Greek comedy in which the clowns all wore Roman togas. And in America an adaptation of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" with Dartmoor yokels in kilts and sporrans. Our host said he had copied the "Scotch dress" from a screen version of the story—Basil Tozer.

"WE'RE IN THE NAVY NOW."

The stars of "Behind the Front," Wallace Beery and Raymond Hatton, have the time of their lives as the sailor heroes of Paramount's second comedy showing the sunny side of the war, "We're in the Navy Now," which will be screened at the Queen's Theatre to-day by general request.

Starting in a prize ring, going to a naval training camp, from there to the deck of a troop transport, and in turn, a small rowboat, submarine, French dreadnought, France and then—all the way back to where it started from. "We're in the Navy Now" creates a new laugh record for Wallace Beery and Raymond Hatton.

cadres passed it might equally mean a great deal for the American people.

He wished we could show in a practical form to America the real desire we had to live in peace and in the closest friendship with her. The members of the Branch might, however, in a very humble way show that they at least had a feeling of sympathy with her.

They had all read in that day's papers of the catastrophe that had overtaken Pittsburg, and even if it could be of no practical help it would be a beau geste for the Branch to send the Mayor of Pittsburg a message of sympathy. (Applause.) The members present agreed that this should be done.

SEASON'S DANCES.

THE RETURN OF THE "BLUES."

DANCE PROGRAMMES.

"Premier Danseur," writes in the "Weekly Scotsman":—"A question which dancers are discussing is this:—Which dances are to hold the floor this season, and which are to rank among 'the old, unhappy, far-off things'?"

In a brief survey of the season's dances, some indication may be given of the probable trend of the majority of dance programmes, with a short description of the steps which will be most popular. No one can really tell just in what form a dance will 'live' during a season. General indications only may be noted, and common-sense deductions drawn therefrom. This is especially the case in connection with a new dance, as it is constantly altered and moulded, sometimes almost imperceptibly, to suit the public fancy. A recent example of this was afforded by the Charleston, which started with the most astonishing acrobatic efforts ever seen on a ballroom floor, and was gradually tamed down to the docile flat, or Smooch, Charleston.

The Waltz and Its Variations. But a nos moutons. In regard to the dances of the season now begun, the first to be considered is the waltz. It will be interesting to the older generation to know that the three-step waltz will still be in favour, and that it seems to be drawing even nearer to the old conception of what a waltz ought to be. Several 'variations' and hesitating movements will be introduced, and the 'rise' on to the ball of the foot will be more marked than was the case last season.

In regard to the variations, the most popular ones will be what are known as 'outside variations,' that is, the gentleman draws his partner outside his line of dance, usually to his right, and performs a step or two; there are, however, innumerable variations possible, although certain ones may prove more popular than others.

Changes in The Fox-Trot.

Then, in regard to the fact, quick-time fox-trot, a most welcome one being the revival of the old 'slow-fox-trot,' danced to the competition time of 48 bars to the minute. The direct cause of this revival was the formation of the 'Ancient Order of Fox-trotters' (known as the A.O.F.T.), of which more may be said at another time. The A.O.F.T. exists for the preservation of the slow-fox-trot and for making it better known. Therefore this season should witness an increase of interest in this most graceful dance. Before it can become really a general favourite, the average standard of public dancing must be raised, as its proper performance requires a better balance than the quick-time fox-trot. However, the slow-fox-trot will certainly be featured during the season, if dancers improve.

Then, in regard to the fast, quick time fox-trot, I predicted in these columns some months ago that it would be merged and moulded eventually into the Charleston. This has, in effect, taken place now, and the 'quick time fox-trot Charleston' will still be popular for those who wish to indulge the joie de vivre and elate of fast, 'snappy' music.

Blues in a New Form. In order to counteract these 'speed merchants,' we have a return of the Blues in a new form, the Yale Blues. Although it is notoriously unsafe to prophesy regarding new dances, it is my firm belief that the dancing public will welcome this variation, and that the slow, rhythmic music will not make its appeal in vain. In addition, the Yale Blues is more or less familiar to dancers, in that the steps have been borrowed from other dances. The Tango, Charleston, and Black Bottom have each given something to the Yale Blues, and this 'feeling of familiarity' in the Yale Blues gives it an initial pleasure and interest by force of association.

The new Blues tempo lets the dancer know that the steps cannot be performed in exactly the same way as was formerly the case, and so there is an urge to learn the correct steps. Thus the Yale Blues will at first be intriguing to dancers, and after it has been mastered, it will prove exceptionally pleasant to perform. An added attraction for the older generation is the nearly forgotten, and the riotously 'hot' Charleston music.

Eclipse of the One-Step. The charms of the once extremely popular one-step will, probably be limited this season to about one dance per evening, and in some halls it will probably be 'reported missing' from the programme altogether.

For the good dancers the Tango will still continue to exert its powerful sway. The dance will be on much the same lines as last season, except that it will be danced with a trifle more deliberation and less 'glide.' Outside movements will also be used here. It will no doubt come as a surprise to many dancers to learn that the Black Bottom is not nearly so dead as was imagined. It was said during the summer that the Black Bottom had not 'caught on' with the dancing public, and that it could safely be 'dumped' on the rubbish heap. But I think that this season

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Shadows Before.

COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCED IN THE "MAIL."

To-day—World Theatre: "Volcano," 5.15 and 9.15; "The True Love," Chinese Drama, 12, 2.30 and 7.15.

To-day—Star Theatre: "Fine Manners."

To-day—Cheer O' Y.M.C.A.: "Whist Drive," 7.30 p.m.

To-day—Queen's Theatre: "We're In The Navy Now."

January 26—Musical at Helena May Institute, 5.30 p.m.

January 26—Cheer O' Y.M.C.A.: Impromptu Dance, 7.30 p.m.

January 26-28—World Theatre: "The Gold Rush."

January 26-28—Queen's Theatre: "The College."

January 26-28—Star Theatre: "The Wedding Song."

January 27—Cheer O' Y.M.C.A.: Concert and Dance, 7.30 p.m.

January 28—Cheer O' Y.M.C.A.: Impromptu Concert, 7.30 p.m.

January 29—Queen's Theatre: "The Irresistible Lover."

January 29—Cheer O' Y.M.C.A.: Musical Evening, 7.30 p.m.

January 29-30—Star Theatre: "The Desert's Toll."

January 29-31—World Theatre: "Way Down East."

January 30-February 4—Queen's Theatre: "Ben Hur."

January 31-February 1—Star Theatre: "The Taxi Dancer."

February 25—Craigengower Cricket Club's annual Bachelors' Dance.

Sports.

To-day—Sim Shield Competition: H.K. Hockey Club v. R.A.F., King's Park, 4.30 p.m.

January 25—American lawn tennis tourney (mixed doubles) for members of the Ladies' Recreation Club at L.R.C.

February 17—Golf Match: Ladies' Bogey Competition at Fanling.

Hughes & Hough's Auction.

March 1—At Auction Room, Ice House Street, valuable leasehold property situate in Peak District, 3 p.m.

Lammeris' Auction.

January 30—At 7 Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon, valuable household furniture, 2.45 p.m.

Land Sale.

January 26—Sale by Public Auction of Crown Land at New Kowloon, F.W.D. Offices, 3 p.m.

Meetings.

To-day—General meeting of Hong Kong Philharmonic Society, Cathedral Hall, 5.30 p.m.

January 25—Meeting of the Sanitary Board Department.

February 7—Twenty-third annual meeting of Union Waterboat Co., Ltd., in the Offices of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., 11 a.m.

Miscellaneous.

To-day—Hong Kong St. Andrew's Society hold annual Burns Dinner.

January 29—Theosophical Society Lecture, Lane, Crawford's Restaurant.

WORLD AND STAR.

Gloria Swanson's comedy of a chorus girl who plunges into the social swim, "Fine Manners," will be screened at the Star Theatre to-day. Another picture also being screened to-day is "Volcano," at the World Theatre, a story of the historic Mount La Pelee eruption, with Bebe Daniels in the leading role. "Volcano" is being screened at 5.15 and 9.20 only, the picture at 12, 2.30 and 7.15 being the Chinese drama, "True Love."

LONDON EXCHANGES.

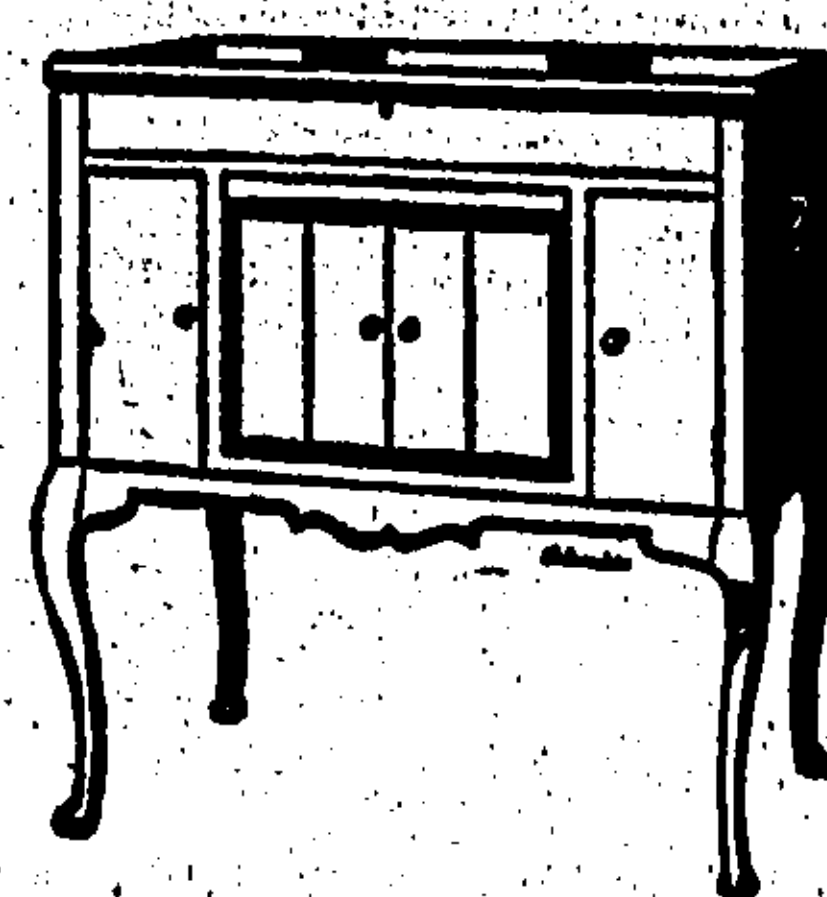
	London, Monday.
Paris	124
Brussels	34.99
New York	4.87 3/4
Geneva	25.31
Amsterdam	12.08 1/4
Milan	92.05
Berlin	20.45
Copenhagen	18.16
Stockholm	18.20
Oslo	18.31
Vienna	34.69 1/2
Prague	164 1/2
Helsinki	120 1/2
Madrid	23.69 1/2
Lisbon	23
Athens	367 1/2
Bucharest	790
Rio	5 69/64
Buenos Aires	47 1/2
Bombay	1/8 1/16
Shanghai	2/7
Hong Kong	2/0 1/4
Yokohama	1/11 3/32
Silver Spot	26 1/16
Silver Forward	26 15/16

—British Wireless Service.

The master of a fishing junk, for trying to prevent seizure by the police, by throwing his cargo overboard, was fined at the Marine Court. He was further remanded on bail at \$50 for not presenting himself at the court at the specified time.

will witness the introduction of Black Bottom movements to several dances, possibly some new ones. In speaking of "Black Bottom" movements, I do not mean the vulgarly eccentric contortions. Enough was not made of the Black Bottom when it was first introduced, perhaps because it came too soon on the heels of the Charleston, but with the slower tempo introduced by the Yale Blues, the Black Bottom may come into its own.

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" 5. 175 "	1 "Baby" Alarm Clock
" 6. 200 "	1 "Spot" Make Rolled Gold Pencil
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LOCAL AND GENERAL SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. C. E. Hughes, ex-Secretary of State, announces that he will not be a candidate for the U.S. Presidency.—Reuter.

Sir Thomas Beecham met with a painful, though not serious, accident by a fall in the West End of London. He has been ordered complete rest.

Mrs. Prichard, Mrs. Nolley, Mrs. Mussett, Mrs. Sweet, and Messrs. J. N. Bathurst, C. Wilkins, E. O. Johnson, W. H. Findley and J. E. King are in the European Hospital, Kuala Lumpur.

Market Bosworth Police Court resembled a school classroom when twenty-five boys appeared on summons for damaging a wall at Bagworth. The parents were ordered to pay five shillings for each boy towards the damage.

Speaking at Kentish Town, Sir Herbert Samuel, chairman of the Liberal Party Organisation, said of all the Government's failures the one possibly attended by the most formidable consequences was the failure of the Disarmament Conference at Geneva.

Sir W. Joynson-Hicks stated at Twickenham that the Factory Bill had not been dropped. It was still being considered and conferences were proceeding satisfactorily. The actual Bill had not yet been drafted, but when it had the whole matter would be reconsidered by the Cabinet.

Mr. Pat Somerset, the English actor, was fined £6 following his arrest for drunkenness at his wedding party. His wife, who was formerly Miss Snelby Worrall and is also English, has pleaded not guilty to a similar offence, and has been ordered to come up for trial.—"Central News."

There are some matters in relation to which it seems necessary to be a "staunch Conservative"—as, for example, the Ten Commandments, the Northern Circuit, the Rules of Concord, and the actual conviction of one cannot usefully attempt to add 4 lb. of butter to 4 o'clock.—Lord Hewart.

After giving the Bochym Hounds a run for over an hour across the moors at Budock, a fox made for Pannance Point, Falmouth, plunged into the sea, and in full view climbed on to a rock and rested. The hounds followed, but the fox jumped off the rock, swam back, climbed to the cliff top, and went to ground in safety.

Mr. Tex McLeod, the American raconteur, tells the following story about a certain British motor-car, the size of which is the cause of many witticisms. A charming girl was sitting in one on the roadside when a bus pulled up at a stop close by. As the conductor passed her he shouted: "Sorry, miss, but you can't bring that with you."

The increased cost of leather will cause a rise in the cost of boots and shoes. Mr. J. A. Craig, Secretary of the Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' Association, said: "The prices of shoes will have to be increased from anything between 1s. and 2s., according to the quality of the article. The public will not feel the increase until next February or March."

Damage amounting to several thousand pounds was caused by fire at the works of the Paragon Rubber Co., Ltd., Hull. The central buildings, including the machinery shops, stores, and electrical plant, and large quantities of unfinished and finished rubber, telephone and wireless components, were destroyed. The fire originated in the roof, and was probably due to a fused electric wire.

A young Guildford man, after rescuing a child from beneath the wheels of a motor-car at Wonerah, near Guildford, disappeared without disclosing his name. Mr. Maurice Burton, of Boston, U.S.A., the driver of the car says: "When I asked him if he was hurt he said he was not, but I noticed that he limped. Suddenly he mounted his bicycle and rode off. He undoubtedly risked his life to save the child."

The Judge stopping the case, Mrs. Etta Motteram, sixty-four, of Nightingale-lane, S.W., was found not guilty at the Old Bailey of the manslaughter of Gladys Taylor, lady's maid, in a nursing home. She was discharged. Dr. Daniel Evans Powell, fifty-six, was also charged on a coroner's inquisition with manslaughter. The charge against him had previously been dismissed by a magistrate and the Crown did not now offer any evidence against him. The doctor was accordingly found not guilty and discharged.

A new and interesting form of artistic expression is to be seen in Miss E. K. Reader's "Watermark Pictures," which, together with some of her inspirational and symbolic pictures, are being exhibited at Coolings Galleries, New Bond Street, W. Miss Reader accidentally discovered that by pouring liquid colour on to moistened paper in a haphazard manner and allowing the colours to mingle, at will, the foundation of a picture appears, which is then worked up. The infinite variety of subjects obtained is intriguing. In one is a scene from Shakespeare's "Tempest."

Kansas City is to be the scene of the Republican National Convention in 1928.

Four persons are dead and one is missing in a blizzard at Calgary, Alberta.

San Salvador.—An unsuccessful attempt was made to start an insurrection here. After putting down the movement the Government proclaimed a state of siege.—Reuter.

Charged with exposing unwholesome pork for sale in Argyle Street, a Chinese was yesterday remanded by Mr. W. Schofield at the Kowloon Magistracy. The defendant said that he was drying the meat for his own consumption.

The theft of a gold chain worth \$100 was lost by Capt. De la Sala of the s.s. "Taishan" yesterday. In his report to the Police he believes that the chain was dropped in the box lobby at the Post Office whilst he was obtaining his mail at 10 o'clock yesterday morning.

Chinese merchants gathered yesterday afternoon at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce to wish each other "Kung Hay Fat Choy." Mr. Li Yau Chuen (Chairman) wished the members a happy and prosperous New Year. Among those present were Sir Shou-son Chow, the Hon. Dr. R. H. Kotewall, C.M.G., Messrs. Ho Lu, Ho Sai Kong, Ho Sai Yue, J. M. Wong, Wong Kwong Tin, and Dr. S. W. Tao.



Princess Ileana, of Roumania, attractive 18-year-old daughter of Queen Marie.

"Absolutely ridiculous" is the U.S. State Department's comment, says Reuter, on the outburst of Mr. Jas. Sullivan (Massachusetts), who says America should return to a rough "shirt-sleeve" diplomacy. Mr. Sullivan said Mayor James Walker, of New York, was met at the American Legation in London by "an underling with an English accent, so unlike anything American." They wanted the "old-style American diplomat, who sported a pinhead and used tobacco as a dist."

Rowdy scenes in a cinema in Paris resulted in the rough handling of Prince Maasour d'Aouda, who, with the Princess and some friends, occupied a box. The party were annoyed by the incessant chattering of certain people near them. The Prince expostulated, but the man to whom he spoke became quarrelsome. A heated argument developed and was followed by a menacing rush for the box by several of the audience. In a free fight the Prince was struck on the head with a walking-stick and the Princess had her gown badly torn.—"Central News."

Lieutenant Francis Mortimer Green, Royal Engineers, aged twenty-five, was killed in an explosion at Porton Experimental Station, near Salisbury. Major Cave Browne, R.E., was examining experimental charges with had been buried to see the effect of climatic conditions on them. He asked Lieutenant Green to carry on with the test during his absence, and when he returned found an explosion had taken place and that Lieutenant Green was dead. Last August Lieutenant Green, eldest son of Colonel C. R. M. Green, of Guildford, married the daughter of the Rev. F. E. Skyrme, of Winterbourne Earls, Wilts.

Local residents leaving on the R.M.S. "Empress of Asia" to-day include:—Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Goldsmith, for Europe. Mr. Goldsmith is Assistant Director of Public Works; Mr. and Mrs. K. S. Robertson, whose marriage took place yesterday, for Canada and Europe; Major A. M. Thompson, for Europe, via Canada; Col. J. M. Boyd, for Kobe; Major L. C. Hayes, for Shanghai; Lt.-Comdr. D. Garvey, R.N., for Shanghai; Baroness Saboni, for Shanghai; Mrs. Harry Davis, for Vancouver; Lt.-Comdr. E. C. Woodhouse, R.N., Lt.-Comdr. A. Day, R.N., for Kobe; Count K. Ohtani, for Shanghai; Major J. Macready, for Shanghai; Mr. A. Lowson, of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, for Shanghai; Mrs. H. A. Jones and Mrs. C. Atkinson, for Shanghai.

Senator Verzani, ex-Premier of Albania, was shot at while motor-ing, but was unhurt. One of his attendants was killed.

Prince Henry was among followers of the Bolshoi Hounds who saw an exciting incident, an express dashing through the pack, who were in full cry on the railway. No dogs were injured.

While Mr. John Henry Hughes, of Aghahalla, Stewartstown, was out rabbit shooting his dog killed a large bird resembling a crane, on the leg of which was found a silver ring inscribed "Inform H. F. Wetherby, Holborn, London."

Dramatic evidence was given by a little girl at the hearing at New Mills, Derbyshire, of the charge against George F. W. Hayward, thirty-two, traveller, of murdering Mrs. Amy Collinson, licentiate of the New Inn, Little Hayfield. Maud Lillian McBain, aged twelve, said she saw Hayward take the drainpipe from the sink at his house, put it on some stones and hammer a piece of stick up the pipe.

Possibly the biggest trap of motorists ever arranged has been carried out at Coventry. As a result over 700 are faced with the alternative of paying a quarter's licence for a fortnight's use of their cars or being prosecuted. The police discovered that many motorists used their cars for the first fortnight in the winter quarter, which period of grace is allowed for renewal of licences, and then ceased using them and took out no licences.

Twelve Manchester cotton export firms are contemplating a big amalgamation and it is reported that a public company, with a capital of about £2,000,000, will be floated to finance the new enterprise. The largest of the firms concerned are chiefly engaged in the South American trade. The change has been hastened by a development of foreign competition, and the amalgamation will be a step towards securing greater efficiency in salesmanship and the marketing of goods.

Another Atlantic liner is to enter into the tourist traffic competition. To satisfy the demand for cabin class accommodation on the Atlantic, the United States lines have decided to change the accommodation from a "first-class" ship into a "cabin" ship. The former first-class accommodation will be devoted to cabin passengers, the minimum rate being £31 as against £50 formerly. The original second-class will now be used for tourist third cabin, the new rate being £22 instead of £29 6s. 0d.

An unrehearsed scene caused excitement at the New Cross Cinema, when Sandrini and Copelli, two young exhibition dancers, suddenly plunged headlong into the orchestra well. Applause at the end of the dance was ringing in the house when there was a crash and a cry, and both artists fell into the orchestra pit. The girl fell on top of a double-bass, damaging the instrument and herself sustaining a cut lip, the breaking of two teeth and shock. The manager stated that Sandrini, an Italian, was wounded in the arm during the war, and that this injury caused him to lose his hold on his partner.

Mr. C. Sargent Jagger, A.R.A., the well-known sculptor, whose works include the Royal Artillery Memorial at Hyde Park Corner, was mistaken for the caretaker of his studio by a fireman. The incident occurred during an outbreak of fire due to a defective stove at Mr. Jagger's studio in Anhalt Road, Battersea. The fire was quickly extinguished and one of the firemen meeting the sculptor, dressed in an old suit of clothes, much stained by his work, began to ask him for particulars about the building. "You are the caretaker?" said the fireman. Mr. Jagger replied gravely: "No; you have made a mistake. Some people call me a sculptor."

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and Children.

Builds Virile
Manhood and
Healthy
Womanhood.



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Specially
Prepared
for Infants.

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to Mother's
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Babies.

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Miss Norma Lorimer, the well-known authoress, writes:

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SPORTS

LOCAL BOXING.

Morris To Meet The Portuguese.

A BELT CONTEST.

Fine Programme For Next Tourney At Lee Theatre.

[By "The Tramp".]

I hear that through no fault of the officials of the Hong Kong Boxing Association the proposed scrap between Iron Bux and Jose Pintos da Silva, of the Portuguese transport, "Pero d'Alenquer," has failed to materialise. The big event of the next tournament, however, will not suffer, for Signalman Morris, of H.M.S. "Argus," perhaps the biggest favourite among local fans, has been secured to meet the Portuguese champion. The fight will be over 15 rounds at the middleweight limit for the Championship of the Colony and a Scott Harston Belt.

The rest of the programme is of a like standard of excellence. Hall and Frazer will be seen in action again, as well as Sharples and Harris. Then there is Signalman Shons and Hume of the Kosbies, and his companion Carney and Batson of the "Iroquois." Also we shall see Broad, of the "Seraph," and McGregor, of the Scots Guards. This tournament, as the last, will be held on Saturday, February 4 in the Lee Theatre (not the Lee Gardens) and, as I have already announced, there will be plenty of ring-side seats for those who prefer them. Also, there is plenty of seating accommodation in the body of the splendid theatre giving a full view of the proceedings. The Theatre lies just off the tram track that goes to Causeway Bay and is therefore easily accessible.

Here is the full programme:—

15 Rounds Middleweight Championship of the Colony.
Signalman Morris, H.M.S. "Argus," v. Jose Pintos da Silva, transport "Pero d'Alenquer." (Middleweight Champion, South Africa).
10 Rounds Welterweight Contest.
L. S. Hall, H.M.S. "Ambrose," v. Marine Frazer, H.M.S. "Tamar."
6 Rounds Welterweight Contest.
Stoker Sharples, H.M.S. "Ambrose," v. Marine Harris, H.M.S. "Argus."
6 Rounds Featherweight Contest.
Signalman Shons, H.M.S. "Seraph," v. Pte. Hume, K.O.S.B.
6 Rounds Welterweight Contest.
Signalman Batson, H.M.S. "Iroquois," v. Pte. Carney, K.O.S.B.
6 Rounds Lightweight Contest.
Stoker Broad, H.M.S. "Seraph," v. Pte. McGregor, Scots Guards.

RIFLE MATCH.

TRIANGULAR CONTEST AT TAIKOO.

A triangular match took place on Saturday at Tai Koo Range, between H.M.S. "Argus," Kai Tak Rifle Club (R.A.F.) and Tai Koo Rifle Club, resulting in a double win for H.M.S. "Argus."

Tai Koo Rifle Club.			
Names.	yds.	yds.	Tl.
Mr. H. Maxwell	24	30	82
" M. H. Wallace	30	30	84
" A. McIndoe	31	33	95
" D. C. Wainwright	29	31	88
" T. Grimshaw	31	32	89
" K. McLennan	32	31	92
" T. Swan	27	31	85
" C. Summers	33	35	90

Totals 237 253 713
Plus 4% for open sights —
Grand Total 713

H.M.S. "Argus."			
Names.	yds.	yds.	Tl.
Mr. Barber	34	34	97
Mr. Nash	35	32	85
Cpl. Willett	33	30	83
Sgt. Hook	26	30	89
L. Tel. Wilkins	30	29	89
P. O. Carle	24	29	77
Mne. Reeves	28	29	84
Mne. Ripley	23	25	67

Totals 223 238 675
Plus 4% for open sights 23
Grand Total 698

Kai Tak Rifle Club (R.A.F.).			
Names.	yds.	yds.	Tl.
F/O. Mellor	26	27	84
S. M. Warren	28	25	81
Sgt. Pryce	28	29	76
A. B. Gallienne	30	31	92
L. A. C. Ball	22	25	42
Mne. Milham	23	30	77
Mne. Rock	29	30	84
A. C. Reeks	22	23	65

Totals 211 200 580
Plus 4% for open sights 24
Grand Total 604

INTERPORT SOCCER.

SHANGHAI'S EASY VICTORY OVER HONG KONG.

SEVEN CLEAR GOALS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, Yesterday. Shanghai was superior at forward and at half back, winning at ease by seven goals to nil, despite brilliant work in goal by Clarke.

In the first half Hong Kong were two goals in arrears, Favacho and Goldman scoring for Shanghai.

In the second half Shanghai dominated the play, scoring five through Lee, Favacho (twice) Gee and Goldman.

A Fast Game.

Shanghai, Yesterday. In the interport soccer contest Shanghai overwhelmed Hong Kong by seven goals to nil.

Despite the overcast, threatening weather the spectators numbered some 10,000. Considering the state of the ground which was sodden, the game went on at remarkably fast pace.

Clarke, the Hong Kong goalie was the most outstanding player. He was frequently applauded but had no chance with any of the seven goals scored. Hong Kong's forwards were weak. McNivern worked hard but was unsupported.

The backs did their best but Shanghai's attack was too strong, while their defence was impenetrable.

The first goal was scored after a quarter of an hour and the second three minutes after the interval.

A quarter of an hour after the resumption McNivern was carried off with a damaged head as a result of a collision with the Shanghai back, but later returned with his head bandaged.—Reuter.

Chinese Interport.

In the Chinese interport soccer match, played at Shanghai on Monday the Southern team, (Tigers) was beaten by the Eastern Chinese by four goals to two. Lee Wang-tong did the hat trick for the winners.

HOLIDAY SOCCER.

FOUR GOOD GAMES ON MONDAY.

NAVY DEFEATED.

There was quite a lot of attraction for local football enthusiasts on Monday, when they had the choice of four friendly matches.

The South China Athletic Association opened their new football ground at Caroline Hill with two interesting matches in which they took the measure of the "Titanic" team as well as a Navy XI.

Both games were very closely contested and the losers in each case were not disgraced, as they gave as good as they took in the exchanges; and it was "joss" which saw the Chinese through. In the game against the Navy XI, the Chinese just scraped through by the odd goal in five. Their victory was by no means assured until the final whistle. However, credit must be given to the Chinese defenders for the thorough opposition they put up when the Navy determinedly raided their goal for the equaliser in the closing stages of the games. All the goals in the game had to be worked hard for.

Another Chinese Win.

In the second game the Chinese won more comfortably by four goals to two, but here also the "Titanic" men did not let their opponents have matters all their own way, and the result was not a good reflex of the game. With just a little bit of luck the "Titanic" should have secured a draw if not actually snatched the game out of the fire. Here again, the defence put up by the Chinese once they had secured the lead was very creditable.

The Royal Artillery and H.M.S. "Argus" had a tight fight for supremacy, and the Gunners just got there by the narrow margin of three goals to two. The ball was up and down the field in quick succession, the goals being alternately in danger. Both goalies and the backs defended well and many fine shots were turned away in the nick of time.

The Tai Koo Club and the Tai Koo Chinese held a "Derby" of their own in which the Chinese emerged winners by four goals to two. The game was interesting in its way, but much was left wanting by both sides in their runs on the opponents' goal. A little more sharpness in getting to the ball at the critical moment might have seen larger scores for both sides, but it is doubtful if the result would have been changed in the end, as the Chinese, played with better understanding generally. They deserved their win.

CRICKET.

M.C.C. TOUR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THIRD TEST MATCH.

Durban, Yesterday. In sunny and hot weather, before a small attendance, on a fairly fast wicket, England scored 480. Stevens scored 69. Vincent took six wickets for 131 runs and Nupen four for 94.

South Africa scored 20 without the loss of a wicket at the lunch interval.

South Africa took (their score to 155 for three wickets up to the tea interval, of which Taylor made 60. At the close of the day's play South Africa had scored 279 for four wickets. Catterall made 76 and Nicolson 66 not out.—Reuter.

CLUB BEATS SERVICES ELEVEN.

OTHER MATCHES.

The three-day cricket match between the Hong Kong Cricket Club and the United Services ended yesterday in a win for the Club by four wickets.

Wanting only 68 runs to win with nine wickets in hand when the game resumed yesterday, the Club had no difficulty in turning the trick. A feature of the first innings was the high scoring on both sides, whilst the bowlers asserted themselves in the second.

United Services.—1st Innings.			
Names.	Runs.	Wickets.	Extras.
Lt. Salter, c Leach, b Reed	6		
Capt. Thorp, c and b Sayer	27		
Lt. Hunt, c Hayward, b Reed	25		
Capt. Tyringham, c Leach, b Sayer	38		
Capt. Dobble, b Leach	22		
Capt. Erskine, c and b Sayer	21		
Lt. Comdr. Shaw, c sub, b Leach	39		
Rev. Venn, lb.w., b Leach	36		
Lt. Cecil, c Scott, b Leach	25		
C.Q.M.S. Newberry, st. Pearce, b Sayer	5		
Wood, not out	0		
Extras	7		

Total 251

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
E. B. Reed	19	3	68
D. W. Leach	26	4	65
G. R. Sayer	16	0	75
E. W. Hamilton	8	0	36

Hong Kong C.C.—1st Innings.
A. W. Hayward, b Shaw 43
D. W. Leach, c Cecil, b Erskine 53
G. R. Sayer, c Musson, b Thorp 28
T. E. Pearce, b Thorp 9
Rev. E. K. Quick, c Thorp, b Erskine 23
O. Moor, c Venn, b Erskine 9
M. D. Scott, c Newberry, b Musson 5
H. V. Parker, not out 21
J. R. Hinton, run out 14
E. W. Hamilton, run out 0
E. B. Reed, lb.w., Newberry 0
Extras 22

Total 230

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Thorp	21	6	49
Erskine	20	3	63
*Wood	5	0	19
Musson	9	2	26
Newberry	4	4	31
*Shaw	5	1	20

*Bowled one wide each.

United Services.—2nd Innings.
Capt. Thorp, c Leach, b Reed 1
Lieut. Salter, c Hayward, b Leach 6
Lieut. Hunt, c Hayward, b Leach 23
Capt. Tyringham, c Quick, b Leach 0
Lieut. Musson, c and b Leach 17
Capt. Erskine, b Parker 1
Pay. Lt. Com. Shaw, b Leach 4
Rev. Venn, c Parker, b Leach 9
S.Q.M.S. Newberry, c and b Leach 0
Leach 0
Tel. Wood, c and b Leach 5
Lt. Cecil, not out 0
Extras 4

Total 70

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Reed	8	0	24
Leach	14	3	22
Quick	1	0	9
*Parker	6	3	11

*Bowled two no balls.

Hong Kong C.C.—2nd Innings.
A. W. Hayward, c Thorp, b Newberry 28
Rev. E. K. Quick, b Erskine 6
M. D. Scott, c Hunt, b Thorp 0
T. E. Pearce, c Thorp 0
D. W. Leach, c Thorp, b Shaw 32
O. Moor, not out 9
H. V. Parker, lb.w., b Shaw 0
J. R. Hinton, not out 11
Extras 11

Total (for 6 wks.) 93

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Erskine	8	1	20
Thorp	9	0	28
Newberry	5	3	12
Musson	3	0	15
Shaw	3	0	8

WIN FOR K.C.C. JUNIOR.

The Kowloon Cricket Club's second eleven beat the China Light and Power Company's team by a narrow margin yesterday, after a tie in the first innings. Scores:—

Kowloon C.C.—1st Innings.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Brace	14	2	55
Ross	4	0	24
Murray	7	0	42
Lee	7	0	27
Guest	3	0	18
Evans	2	0	18
Herridge	3	1	9

Total 143

China Light.—2nd Innings.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Murray	4	0	13
Overy	9	1	26
Drysdale	11	1	29
Hawkins	2	1	8

Total (for 4 wks. dec.) 127

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
A. B. Clemo	14	0	50
Kelly	11	0	58
Eastbrook	3	1	15

Total 184

China Light.—2nd Innings.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
F. Hamblin, c Fincher, b Lee	32		
A. J. C. Smith, c Lawrence	34		
C. B. Clemo, c Buxton, c Hast, b Lee	3		
A. Tinson, lb.w., Lee	3		
b Drysdale	0		
F. C. Clemo, c Buxton, b Overy	8		
L. Forrest, b Lee	13		
D. Kelly, not out	16		
A. B. Clemo, c Fincher, b Overy	5		
J. W. Bertram, b Overy	0		
G. I. Angus, c Lindell, b Overy	4		
W. Brown, c Fincher, b Lee	0		
Extras	19		

Total 184

Bowling Analysis.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Murray	4	0	13
Overy	9	1	26
Drysdale	11	1	29
Hawkins	2	1	8

Total (for 4 wks. dec.) 127

Bowling Analysis.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Clemon	5	0	36
Kelly	8	0	56
Eastbrook	5	0	38

Total 109

China Light.—2nd Innings.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Tinson, st. Lawrence, b Hawkins	6		
Smith, b Lee	0		
Fincher, b Eastbrook	47		
Lawrence, st. Smith, b Kelly	55		
Buxton, b Eastbrook	0		
Evans, not out	2		
Lee, st. Smith, b Eastbrook	0		
Hawkins, not out	21		
Extras	2		

Total 127

Bowling Analysis.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Clemon	5	0	36
Kelly	8	0	56
Eastbrook	5	0	38

Total 109

China Light.—2nd Innings.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Murray	3	1	10
Lee	4	1	11
Hawkins	4	0	19
Overy	5	1	9
Drysdale	2	0	9

Total 78

Bowling Analysis.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Murray	3	1	10
Lee	4	1	11
Hawkins	4	0	19
Overy	5	1	9
Drysdale	2	0	9

Total 78

Bowling Analysis.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Murray	3	1	10
Lee	4	1	11
Hawkins	4	0	19
Overy	5	1	9
Drysdale	2	0	9

Total 78

Bowling Analysis.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Murray	3	1	10
Lee	4	1	11
Hawkins	4	0	19
Overy	5	1	9
Drysdale	2	0	9

Total 78

Bowling Analysis.

Bowling Analysis.			
Names.	O.	M.	R.
Murray	3	1	10
Lee	4	1	11
Hawkins	4	0	19
Overy	5	1	9
Drysdale	2	0	9

Total 78

Bowling Analysis.

NOTICE

During Chinese New Year our premises will be closed to business on 23rd January and will be reopened on 27th January, 1928.

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FASHIONS AND FANCIES

THE FOX SCARF.



Among the Favoured Accessories the Fur Neckpiece Is Found Taking an Important Place.

For these very brisk days that show a decided tang the smartly dressed woman finds a fur scarf an important and very chic addition to her ensemble.

Each wardrobe may contain several fur scarfs, varying in colour and in pelt. The fox scarf right now is at the top of its vogue. The single skins are, of course, as popular as ever. In addition to the single foxes Paris has introduced two and even three skins smartly joined together and has created a very stunning neckpiece for those who can wear so large a scarf with becomingness.

Colours there are in plenty. The silver foxes are very handsome—particularly with the costumes of black that are so much worn right now. The cross fox, the silver tipped fox, the black fox, the brown fox, the platinum fox, the white and blue fox all serve as an extremely flattering addition to the well dressed woman's appearance.

There are other skins that serve to make a smart appearance—the marten, the mink, the sable and fitch all being worn with much success. But it is primarily the fox scarf that gives the sought-after youthful effectiveness and appeal.

Lillian Tashman, who is one of the screen's as well as one of First National's best dressed women, wears an interesting and very new ensemble in the First National film, "A Texas Steer." It consists of a beige crepe dress with fringe showing a longer-at-the-sides movement. A tight hat of very new lines and a fox scarf complete a chic appearance.

SEEKING THE SUN!

That is what fashion will soon be doing, when the Winter season is over.

In the fabric section they are introducing soft wools that belong to a different setting from that which Winter affords. Beautiful stuffs—soft cashmeres, angoras and wool crepes and velvets—that have a definite purpose in view. And there are printed fabrics, as well, among them crepes and satins, as well as silks. Cottons are represented, especially the dimities, organdies and volles.

Fabric showings remind us that there are such things as pastel shades. If one may judge from the models that have found their way into the shops, some of the tendencies apparent in the Winter mode will be strengthened in Spring fashions that are the forerunners of Summer styles. There is just the same tendency toward longer skirts, apparent in afternoon and evening things rather than in

THE FORMAL NOTE IS PRESENT.



Evening Gowns Show a Decided Trend Towards the Picturesque and Sophisticated. Fabrics and Lines Combine to Create the Formal Effect.

A new note has been struck in fashions for the busy Winter season. The formal note is smartly present. The feminine lure is spelt in terms of grace and elegance.

There are many modes to follow. There is the robe de style that is succeeding year after year in holding its place in the field of formal gowns. The robe de style with its billowing skirts and long lines is decidedly picturesque and the picturesque note this season is the one to achieve. The bouffant skirted gown finds many means of gaining its fullness and charm. Fabrics present a varied means. First of all there is the new and sheer velvet that drapes so beautifully. In the many folds required in the robe de style, velvet is particularly stunning. Laces, too, are good and vie with taffetas in creating really charming formal gowns.

The scant knee length dresses of velvet with their lines longer in the back also are seen showing a note of formality. Fabrics have much to do in creating a smart effect in this type of gown. Sheer velvets are good, but there are also seen laces in exceedingly light and beautiful weaves that create stunning gowns as well.

Lanes and the sheer brocaded velvets are the two favoured means of introducing this formal and picturesque quality. The glitter of silver and gold do much, also, to establish this desired effect. Trains, long discarded, have returned to help create the formal feeling. The trains appear in odd places as they do not necessarily come from the back, but have side outlets as well.

Maria Corda, who brings much of the charm of Paris to her costumes, is especially well costumed in First National motion pictures. She is here seen wearing an evening gown of particular lure. It possesses the formal note in the extreme. It is of the new sheer velvet in silver and possesses

gorgeous draperies of silver lace. A huge rose at the right shoulder also possesses beauty and picturesque effectiveness. Miss Corda soon will be seen in motion picture theatres in a magnificent adaptation of John Erskine's famous novel "The Private Life of Helen of Troy."

NEEDLEWORK AND ANTIQUES.

I have just been with two very delightful ladies from Brisbane, who, I may tell you without blowing my own trumpet, inform me that they read this page of chat from London with great interest every week. As it is written by your humble servant, I was more than anxious to learn their opinion. Wasn't it sweet of them to tell me, "We love it." Then we fell to discussing things, and I learnt that something about fashions is always welcome, and things in general of interest to women. Well, I went with them to an exhibition which frankly delighted them. I think I mentioned it as forthcoming in my last. It was an exhibition of antique and modern needlework and curios. In all my experience—and it has been a wide one—I never have seen such valuable or priceless things in the antique department, or such fascinatingly beautiful needlework in the modern section. I think I told you this show was coming off in aid of one of our big country hospitals. Well, it was an enormous success, and the greatest praise is due to a band of influential ladies who formed the committee, and who worked strenuously for the cause for they entirely cut new ground by this enterprise. I doubt if dozens of the people attending had any idea that such beautiful needlework was in existence, or how it has become so popular since the war. Women must have the time for it, and it is only those who are not workers, shall we say, for their daily bread, who have the leisure. Perhaps the antiques interested me most; they were in such a wonderful state of preservation, and dated from the days of Lady Jane Grey and Mary Queen of Scots. Needlework done by these two ill-fated Queens was exhibited—fine petit-point and other intricate stitchery.

The Queen's Exhibit. Queen Mary lent some wonderful preserved baby linen, worn by King George IV, with a tiny crown beautifully embroidered on every thing. Princess Helena Victoria sent a lovely quilt, and a cream satin apron, gorgeously embroidered in colours and trimmed with lace belonging to Queen Caroline, the unhappy wife of George IV, was also shown; while there was another magnificent quilt richly embroidered, which was a present from the same erratic monarch to Mrs. Fitzherbert. There were also some wonderful Court suits with magnificent embroidery, lent by the Duke of Northumberland. The Duke of Devonshire lent a superb panel in petit-point, belonging to his famous ancestress, Bess of Hardwick, which came from his seat, Hardwick Hall, also applique work on a red velvet. There are 16th century exhibits, and those of you who admire women's work must realise how priceless these

BLAND ON CHINA.

INTERVENTION IMPERATIVE, IN HIS OPINION.

CRITICISES SPEAKERS.

It may safely be asserted that the attitude and sentiments of the principal speakers at the recently held dinner of the China Association, were a source of profound disappointment to those who, for some time past, have felt increasing concern, not only for the security of our fellow-countrymen in the Far East, but for the pitiful condition of the Chinese people.

We made bold to hope that those whose duty it was to speak on behalf of the Association and of the British Government, would face the realities of the situation. We thought that they would utter something which might be taken as a sign that the civilised Powers, as a matter of simple humanity, are prepared to consider seriously the necessity for united remedial action. We hoped, in fact, for some authoritative pronouncement.

As I listened to Lord Southborough and Lord Peel, I longed for the magic carpet of Tangu to transport this brilliant assembly to China, and there give those who need it a glimpse of things as they are, say, in the city of Chang Tsu, where not so long ago some 50,000 men, women and children were savagely butchered by the "Christian Generals' troops."

If one may judge by the speeches delivered on this occasion (wherein was no mention of any such distasteful things) it will need something in the nature of a miracle to dispel the illusions and to clear our minds of the political cant, whereby the doctrine of non-intervention, the facile path of laissez-faire, have been justified in high places since the Washington Conference. From which painful reflection my mind went back to the days of that august assemblage of the Treaty Powers, to the eloquent exposition of noble sentiments and benevolent purposes, whereby the gospel of non-intervention was to be blessed and to the deep solicitude professed by all concerned for the true welfare and peace of China.

False Theory.

To those who possessed any knowledge of the history and social economy of the Chinese people, of their utter incapacity to establish an effective system of representative government on a democratic basis, the falsity and futility of the political theories underlying the Washington agreements, were manifest from the outset. Now that these theories, and the hopes built upon them, have been completely stultified, the statement of Christendom on both sides of the Atlantic are strangely silent.

Touching this shibboleth of non-intervention, the great majority of the respectable classes in China—the gentry, scholars, merchants, manual workers, and farmers—would be fervently grateful for intervention by any nation and in any form, which would restore security for life and property. If the truth were told, the "rising tide of China's political self-consciousness," of which we have heard so much, is no more a reality than the alleged hostility of her people to ourselves. Both are de-

lusions, skillfully devised and propagated by the Westernised section of Young China for its own ends. Lord Peel referred to them both, in justification of the British Government's policy of non-intervention. He took credit for the Government's "presence," in that they had recognised this rising tide and endeavoured to meet Young China's aspirations. It may therefore reasonably be inferred that the Foreign Office school of thought has learned nothing from the ghastly failure of the experiment in patient conciliation at Hankow.

Silent Misery.

At the best, it seems, a halt may now be called to further experiments of the same kind, but the official attitude of unconcerned neutrality is apparently proof against any appeal to elementary instincts of humanity. We shall continue, it seems, in the "almost impossible task of recognising chaos," all heedless of the silent misery of its innumerable victims. We shall continue to shut our eyes to the self-evident fact that there can be no hope of the Chinese finding a way out of their present afflictions unless helped from without.

It was, no doubt, inevitable that Lord Southborough should make a respectful gesture in the direction of the fetish of Chinese Nationalism, but as regards the possibility of measures to relieve some of the sufferings of the Chinese people, he was ominously silent.

Some there are to-day who believe that amicable relations and goodwill in trade should be sought by a wholesale surrender of our Treaty rights and extra-territorialised concessions. Yet the wise words which Sir George Staunton used in 1816, to dissuade Lord Amherst from prostrating himself before the Chinese Court, remain as true to-day as they were then. The result of the disgrace thus purchased, he said, "would have fatally shaken that confidence which we have with considerable success, established at Canton, in the firm adherence to principle which distinguishes the British character, a confidence, which is our best ally in all our differences with the Chinese, and probably our only preservative against such a systematic oppression on the part of the local authorities, as would necessarily terminate (in the present state of British feeling) in a rupture of intercourse between the two countries."

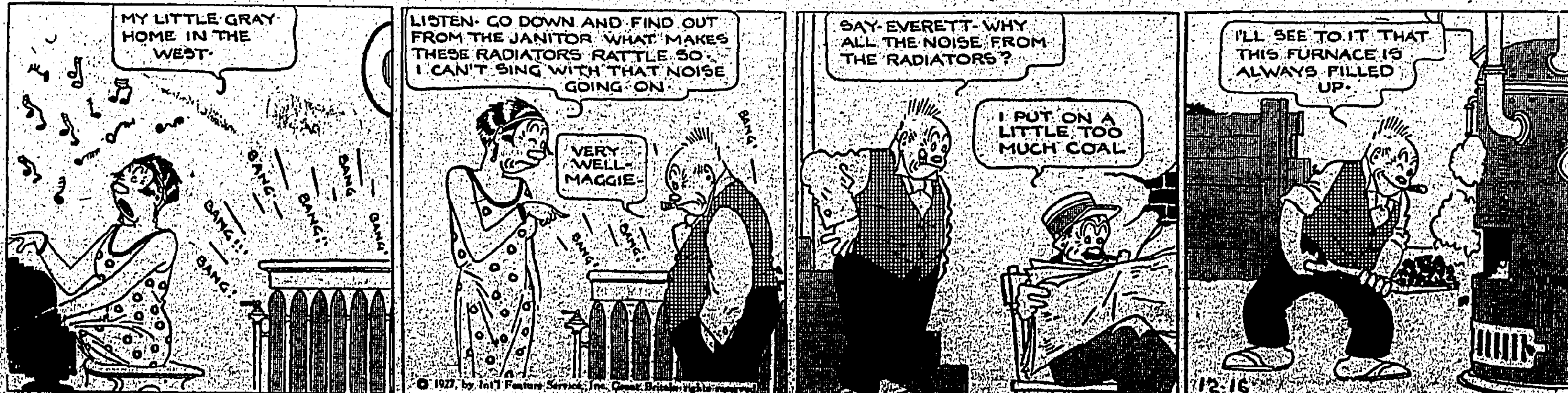
Adhering to Principle.

By firm adherence to principle, by putting the vital interests of the Chinese people before the selfish interests of the political factions, and by the adoption of certain concerted measures (not necessarily extensive or expensive), to restrict the movements of bandits and rival forces over certain main lines of communication, the Powers could soon bring about a great improvement in the deplorable conditions under which the Chinese people at present suffer.

Japan appears to be ready and willing to co-operate to this end. The question is, so far as this country is concerned, is: can the Press and Parliament be induced to take any serious interest in the matter? If not, there can be no hope of any alleviation of China's sorrows in the near future.—"Morning Post."

antiques are, and they stand to show how our ancestors understood the art of the needle. Dozens of other beautiful things were in the show, and one could easily have spent a week enthusing over them. The modern work was most beautiful, especially the needlework pictures—lovely landscapes which from a distance looked exactly like oil painting, panels, chair covers, cushions, and work of all kinds, both in petit-point, and crewel stitch; amazed me by their beauty, also the lace. One could hardly realise it was hand-work, so exquisite was the finish. I often wonder if our Dominion ladies are as keen on needle work as we are. I was most interested to learn the two Queensland ladies I mentioned were taking back quite a big stock from this country for idle hours "down under."—Diana.

BRINGING UP FATHER.



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"The whole of one side of my face was a mass of weeping eczema," says Mr. L. D. Villiers, of Salt River, C.C. "I had medical treatment and spent pounds on so-called remedies but the matter places got worse and worse. I couldn't sleep for the awful irritation. "I was ashamed to be seen outdoors and always held a handkerchief over my face to hide the disfigurement. Then I decided to give Zam-Buk a trial and the first application of this soothing balm reduced pain and itching. "As I persevered with Zam-Buk it brought all bad matter away from the sores and healed in remarkably short time. Now, thanks to Zam-Buk, all trace of eczema has been cleared away. Shaving was practically impossible for two years, but I now shave in perfect comfort."

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CHINA TO-DAY.

OPINIONS OF EX-TRADE
COMMISSIONER.
NATIONALIST CONSPIRACY.

Mr. E. S. Little, formerly Trade Commissioner for Australia in China, accompanied by Mrs. Little, arrived at Townsville recently. Mr. Little said that his wife and himself were going to Australia and from thence to New Zealand to see if they could find a nice quiet place to reside in after the stormy conditions of China, where they had resided for 40 years. They had come immediately from North China. He was surprised to see that the Australian papers had practically no news of China, which was at present in a state of appalling chaos. "In my view," said Mr. Little, "Australia should take the keenest interest in what is happening in China, because the deliberate aims of the Nationalist Party there are to break up the British Empire. The responsible heads of the Government stated that to me themselves in December last, at Kuling, from which place we were all driven out.

World Revolution.

"They told me that the policy of the Chinese was to make the whole of China Bolshevik, and said that when they had done that it would be the first step in their world revolution. They said that they were going to try and get back Hong Kong, which is a British Colony, and the Straits Settlements, and then proceed to tackle other portions of the British Empire. There recently had been some Communist outbreaks at Java and Sumatra, and the Chinese were at the back of these. They were doing the same thing in the Straits Settlements, and also operating in India." In its present phase, Mr. Little said, the conspiracy was going to fail. All the Nationalist leaders, in spite of their patriotic slogans, were out to make as much as they could. They were oppressing the people, and the soldiers were doing acts of banditry. In every way the Hankow and Nanking sections were hopelessly divided. The Chinese disturbance was the biggest bluff in all history. Most of the leaders, whilst they professed to be Nationalists, did not care two straws what happened to China, provided they got rich. The case of Chiang Kai-shek was a striking instance. He was reported to have become immensely wealthy, the figures being put to him (Mr. Little) by responsible men as 15,000,000 dollars. Chiang Kai-shek went round in China with a body guard of 3,000 soldiers, so

that no one should take his wealth from him. Chiang had had a Chinese wife, whom he had thrown off. He had now set his eyes on a Chinese girl, trained in America, who was a daughter of his (Mr. Little's) very best Chinese friend in China. Chiang wanted to marry the girl at once, but she was not prepared to do that. Chiang Kai-shek was now in Japan, and had announced his intention of taking an extended trip abroad. That was the way the leaders loved their country.

Appalling Tyranny.

The most appalling tyranny was taking place in China to-day in any place in the world. No Chinese life was worth a minute's purchase if the leaders wanted it. If the British troops had not arrived when they did, he believed that there would have been the most appalling massacre of white men and women ever known. "I understand that the cry, 'hands off China,' is being used here," he continued, and the supporters say that no assistance should be sent, either in troops, food, or ammunition. That cry originated in Moscow, and has been circulated all over the British Empire and America by Bolshevik agents, and any man who joins the associations is simply helping the Moscow Bolsheviks against the British Empire and Australia. People learn these parrot-like cries, such as 'Down with Imperialism,' though 99 per cent. of them do not know what it means, and there is no more tyrannous Imperialism in this world, in this, or any other generation, than the most impressive tyranny of the Chinese nationalists."



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VALUABLE PICKWICK.

When the cables brought news from New York that a first edition of Charles Dickens's "Pickwick Papers" (published in 19 parts) had been sold at auction at the record price of £3,260, the collector of the books, Mr. Thomas Hatton, a retired Leicester boot and shoe manufacturer, for whom they were sold, was sorry.

He was surprised at the price, which is more than double the previous record (£1,600 at a sale in England), but he confessed to a reporter that at that moment he regretted having parted with them.

Mr. Hatton, who is a private collector, and formed the nucleus of the Library of Leicester University College with a gift of 2,000 valuable books, said:

"Perhaps I am not so much a collector as a Dickens lover. I have devoted 20 years to forming this collection of 19 books—18 single shilling issues and one 'Christmas double number' 2s. issue that are supposed to make a 20-part 'Pickwick'—and now it has gone.

Some Americans who were visiting England this summer heard of my collection, visited me, and persuaded and persuaded until I said I would sell. The moment the books had gone I began to regret my decision.

Search From Boyhood.

I loved Dickens as a boy and with my first few shillings began to buy what I thought were first editions. Then it dawned on me that I wanted the paper-bound issues and not stiff covers, so I began to buy them. While hunting for the 19 copies I was continually throwing out one copy for a better one discovered somewhere, so that at one time I had more than 40 copies in my hands.

You must remember that only 400 of Parts 1, 2, and 3 were sold, and that when Sam Weller arrived there was such a surge of interest that Parts 1, 2, and 3 were reprinted.

It was the first of the first edition that I always wanted—the first of the machines. Thousands of such things as broken letters and blurs had to be searched for. I think my set particularly valuable because it has the advertisements—little slips that used to be sewn in.

I go one by buying the whole Dickens stock of a London bookseller. Another time I had to buy a huge quantity of mixed books for £106 to get one paper-covered copy. Although money was not my aim, I sold off my remainders at a price that paid for every Pickwick I ever bought, so that this £3,260 is all profit. I am going on as a Dickens collector, but this time not to sell.

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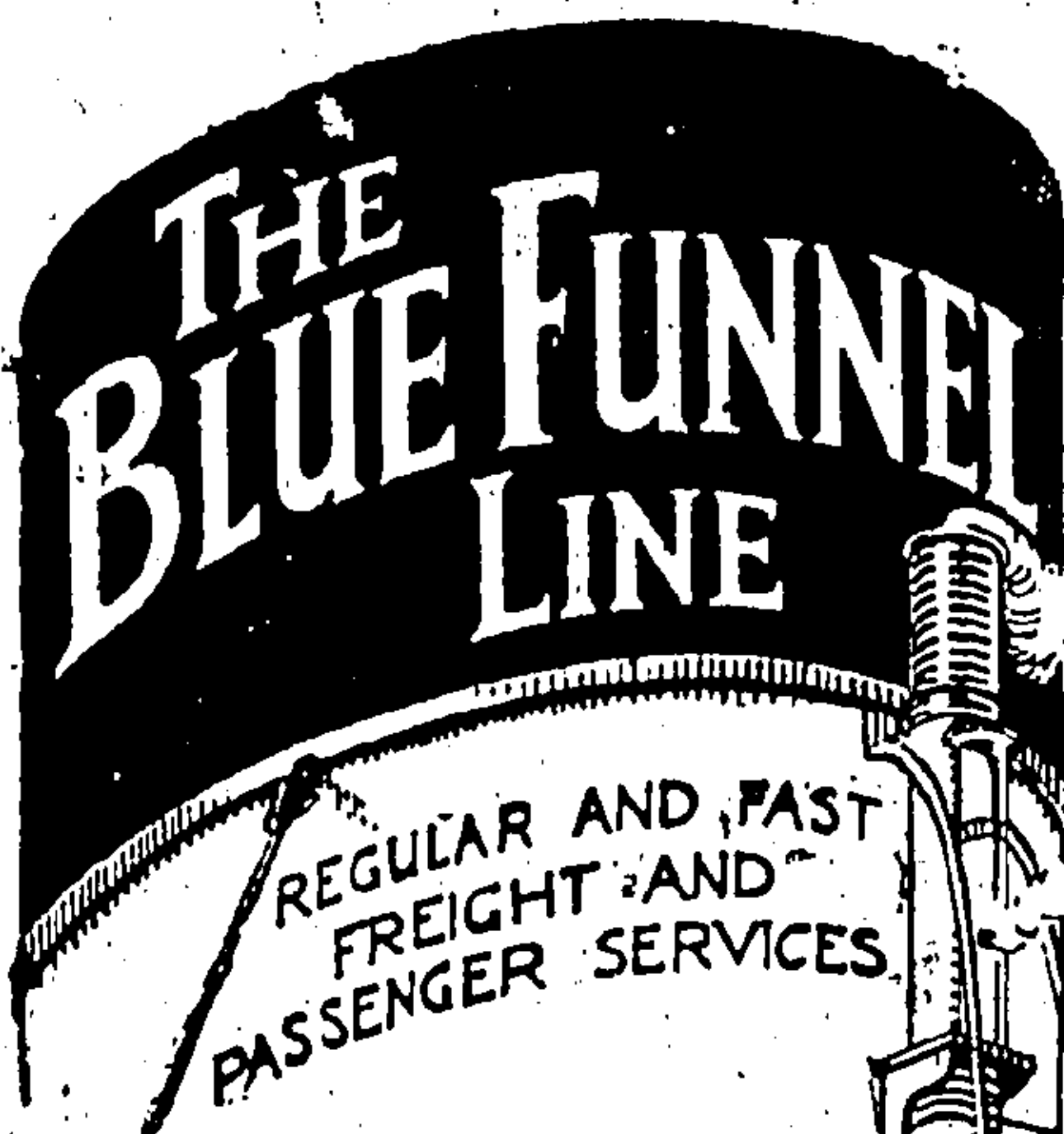
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OF THE
DOLLAR DIRECTORY.



LONDON SERVICE.

"ANTENOR" 25th Jan. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow
"PERNEUR" 7th Feb. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
"HECTOR" 22nd Feb. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow
"GLAUCUS" 6th Mar. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
* via Casablanca.

LIVERPOOL SERVICE.

"MENTOR" 20th Feb. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"ACHILLES" 5th Mar. Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"POLYPHEMUS" 1st Apr. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"BELLEROPHON" 20th Apr. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow

PACIFIC SERVICE.

"KOBÉ & YOKOHAMA" 28th Jan. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle
"PROTEUS" 18th Feb. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle
"TALITHYRUS" 18th Feb. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle

NEW YORK SERVICE.

"LYCAON" 9th Mar. New York, Boston & Baltimore
"RHESUS" 6th Apr. New York, Boston & Baltimore

PASSENGER SERVICE.

"ANTENOR" 25th Jan. Singapore, Marseilles & London
"HECTOR" 22nd Feb. Singapore, Marseilles & London
"AENEAS" 20th Mar. Singapore, Marseilles & London
"SARPEDON" 18th Apr. Singapore, Marseilles & London
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"On and after January 4, Radio telegrams will be accepted at the Radio Counter, 1st floor Government Building for transmission to all offices in British North Borneo at the rate of 40 cents per word."

INWARD MAILS.

From	Per	
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25		
Japan	25	Arafura.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26		
Shanghai & Europe via Siberia	26	Delta.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 27		
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan & Shanghai	27	Tenyo Maru.
Japan & Shanghai	27	Haruna Maru.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28		
Europe via Negapatam (papers only, London)	28	Talamba.
29th Dec., 1927		
Europe via Negapatam (letters only, London)	28	Laisang.
29th Dec., 1927		
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3		
Japan & Shanghai	3	Malwa.

OUTWARD MAILS.

For	Per	
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25		
Bangkok	25	Kalying 3.30 p.m.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26		
Swatow, Amoy & Formosa	26	Deli Maru 8.30 a.m.
Sandakan	26	Sui Sang 10.30 a.m.
Swatow	26	Hydrangea 2.30 p.m.
Straits	26	Gleniffer 4.30 p.m.
Shanghai	26	Linan 5 p.m.
Manila, Sandakan, Australia & New Zealand via Thursday Island—due Thursday Island, 11th Feb. Parcels 5 p.m. Registration 5 p.m. Letters (27th Jan.) 8.30 a.m.		
FRIDAY, JANUARY 27		
Swatow, Amoy & Poochow	27	Arafura 1 p.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, E. & S. Africa, Aden, Egypt & Europe via Marseilles—due Marseilles, 26th Feb. G.P.O.—Registration (28th Jan.) 8.45 a.m. Letters 9.30 a.m. K.P.O.—Registration 4.30 p.m. Letters (28th Jan.) 9 a.m.		
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28		
Holhow, Pakhoi & Haiphong	28	Haruna Maru 10.30 a.m.
Sandakan	28	Nanning 1.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, C. & S. America & Europe via San Francisco—due San Francisco, 22nd Feb. G.P.O.—Registration (31st Jan.) 1.45 p.m. Letters 2.30 p.m.		
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29		
Swatow, Amoy & Poochow	29	Tenyo Maru 5 p.m.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31		
Swatow, Amoy & Poochow	31	Lai Sang 9 a.m.
Saigon, "Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, E. & S. Africa, Aden, Egypt & Europe via Marseilles"—due Marseilles, 2nd March. K.P.O.—Registration (31st Jan.) 1 p.m. Letters 1 p.m. G.P.O.—Registration (31st Jan.) 1.45 p.m. Letters 2.30 p.m.		
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3		
Swatow, Amoy & Poochow	3	Angers. Hai Hong Noon

*Correspondence bearing vessel's name only.

ARMS SCANDAL.

Allegation By Berlin Newspaper.

MINISTER INVOLVED.

Arrest Of Germans In China Ordered.

London, Yesterday. The "Daily Telegraph's" Berlin correspondent says that if the "Berliner Tageblatt" is correctly informed Herr Groener will have to explain to the Reichstag even a more delicate scandal than the Phoebe film affair in which his department was involved.

The "Berliner Tageblatt" alleges that a lieutenant in the active Army and a high official of the Naval Transport Department of the War Ministry are concerned in a "curious transaction" regarding the shipment of 17 waggons of munitions which the Kiel police stopped when it was about to be shipped to a destination declared to be Oslo but was suspected to be China.

The "Berliner Tageblatt" speaks derisively of the hints that the Kiel munitions affair should be hushed up in the interests of national defence and says that there "is no question of the interests of national defence as it was a piece of business wherein much money was to be made and that the question must be cleared up as to what purposes this money was to be applied."

After stating that the War Department knew nothing whatever about this consignment of munitions the "Berliner Tageblatt" assumes that Herr Coroner will end such dealings once and for all.

Naval Department Denial.

Berlin, Yesterday. Replying to a question in the Budget Committee of the Reichstag Dr. Stresemann stated that the Naval Department had assured the Foreign Office that neither it nor any of its officials had anything to do with the shipments of arms and munitions for China, and the Foreign Office accepted this as a formal denial of the rumours that had been circulated.

Germans To Be Arrested.

The "Lokal Anzeiger" publishes a telegram from Hong Kong stating that the Nanking Government has ordered all the branches of two German firms to be closed and their managers arrested on a charge of rebellion as the firms are accused of supplying Marshal Chang Tso-lin with weapons shipped on the Norwegian steamer "Skule."—Reuter.

FORD AEROPLANE.

INTEREST IN FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE.

FLIGHT TO MIAMI.

New York, Yesterday. The Ford aeroplane has made its first public appearance. The plane is under twenty feet from wing to wing, and has a petrol capacity of 48 gallons stored in the wing tanks. It is driven by a tiny two-cylinder motor and much resembles the small fighting planes used by the French in war time.

Piloted by Mr. Harry Brooks, who was heavily clad, as the cabin is not enclosed, the machine has left Miami on a non-stop flight.

Reuter's American Service. Forced Down. New York, Yesterday. The Ford aeroplane was forced down at Asheville, North Carolina, owing to the formation of ice on the wings.—Reuter's American Service.

MOTH AEROPLANES.

FACTORY TO BE ESTABLISHED IN CANADA.

DEVELOPMENT OF AVIATION.

Rugby, Yesterday. The De Havilland Aircraft Company, Limited, intend to establish a factory at the Leaside Aerodrome, Toronto, primarily to provide a service station for the many Moth light aeroplanes that are being supplied to Canada.

The business manager of the De Havilland Company, who recently visited Canada, believes that the quick development of aviation in Canada will depend on cheap light aeroplanes.—British Wireless Service.

PEACE IN INDUSTRY.

Discussions To Continue.

T.U.C. DECISION.

Committee Appointed To Meet Employers.

London, Yesterday. After a lengthy sitting the General Council of the Trade Union Congress, it is officially stated, has decided to continue the discussions with the employers on the subject of industrial peace, and has authorised the Committee, including Messrs. Ben Turner, J. H. Thomas, and Will Thorne, to confer with the employers' Committee.

It is understood that there was a substantial majority in favour of continuing the discussions.

Mr. A. J. Cook claimed that six members of the Council opposed the continuance of the discussions without a mandate from the Unions.—Reuter.

A New Era.

Rugby, Yesterday. Mr. Reginald McKenna, Chairman of the Midland Bank, at the general meeting of shareholders, said that the hope expressed a year ago that 1927 would witness the dawn of a new era in industrial relationships and an upward trend in prosperity had been fulfilled. There had undoubtedly been a great improvement in the relations between capital and labour, and a gradual but steady recovery of trade following the grave difficulties through which the country had passed in 1926. He did not suggest that there was cause for unbounded optimism. The problem yet before the country were numerous and complicated, but the background was brighter than a year ago.—British Wireless Service.

THEFTS ADMITTED.

CHINESE STEALS \$2,000 WORTH JEWELLERY.

Before Mr. Roger Edward Lindsell at the Central Magistracy this morning, a Chinese was charged with being found on the staircase of No. 21, Leighton Hill Road at 1 a.m., on Monday for an unlawful purpose. He pleaded "guilty" and also admitted three other charges of theft from the same house on October 20, November 19 and January 10 of three lots of jewellery worth altogether over \$2,000.

The Wanchai police said that the accused was formerly employed by the complainant's husband in an aerated water factory and had been to the house to do some carpenter's work. He thus became acquainted with the complainant and visited the house on various occasions, and it was alleged that he stole the jewellery in the course of such visits.

The Police asked for three days' remand in custody to enable them to complete inquiries in the matter.

The Magistrate remanded the accused until Saturday.

CHARGE DROPPED.

The case in which a Chinese is charged with stealing letters from a private letter box, and with attempting to obtain money by false pretences, was dropped by the Police when the accused again appeared before Mr. Roger Edward Lindsell at the Central Magistracy this morning. In discharging the accused, Mr. Lindsell remarked that he was very lucky that no evidence could be given against him for stealing letters, and that now the complainant in the other charge was not available.

HIT BY TRAMCAR.

A young Chinese woman named See Heung living at No. 5, Wing Lee Street, was yesterday taken to the Government Civil Hospital as the result of being knocked down by a tramcar in Des Voeux Road Central, near Wing On Street. She is suffering from severe scalp wounds.

TO-DAY'S DOLLAR.

The closing rate of the dollar, on demand, to-day was 2/0 3/16.

WAR SCARE.

Officers' Irresponsible Statements.

OF NO IMPORTANCE.

Timely Warning By President Coolidge.

Washington, Yesterday. It is announced that President Coolidge sees no reason why the newspapers of the United States or any other country should take seriously the statements of American naval officers predicting a war between the United States and its commercial competitors.—Reuter's American Service.

"Free Speech."

Washington, Later. The Presidential statement was evoked by a declaration by Rear-Admiral Plunkett that alarming charges were often made when appropriations were sought from Congress. President Coolidge was of opinion that it was difficult to curb speakers for fear of raising a cry of the violation of free speech, but he recommended those charged with the nation's defence to follow the policy of considering the welfare of the country in public statements.—Reuter's American Service.

LADIES' HATS.

LOCAL TRADERS IN COURT.

CLAIM FOR \$1,000.

In the Summary Court this morning, before Mr. Justice J. R. Wood, Puisne Judge, Mr. James H. Backhouse sued Mme. R. Sarraut and Rose Sarraut, a partner, for the sum of \$1,000 in respect to the wrongful delivery of five parcels of hats from London.

Defendant counter-claimed the sum of \$361.79 in respect of one parcel of goods allegedly wrongfully received by plaintiff.

Plaintiff claimed to have suffered damage by the wrongful conversion by the defendant of five parcels of goods consigned by post addressed to Rolande Sarraut, Hong Kong, the property of the plaintiff, valued at \$378.73. The claim was for this amount in addition to damages in respect to the loss of profit on the sale of the goods. In order to bring the case within the jurisdiction of the Court, the damages were limited to such an amount as brought the total claimed up to \$1,000. There was an alternative claim for \$1,000.

Counter Claim.

Mme. Sarraut counter-claimed, stating that on August 15 defendant, through her London agent, Mr. H. Pearman, purchased from Messrs. Thos. Tohmend & Co., 45, ladies' felt hats and five ladies' fancy straw hats of the value of \$186.79. The goods were despatched from London by parcel post addressed to the defendants in the name of Mme. Sarraut. It is alleged that plaintiff wrongfully took delivery on September 30. In all the sum of \$361.79 was counter-claimed.

Mr. Hugh Jones, for the plaintiff, said that plaintiff and defendant were at one time partners carrying on business as Rolande Sarraut, in Queen's Road Central. After the partnership was dissolved goods continued to arrive in the name of Rolande Sarraut and the five parcels concerned in the claim before the Court so arrived. It was admitted by the defendants that the five parcels were the property of the plaintiff and therefore counsel did not intend to call evidence.

Mr. L. R. Andrewes, for defendants, said they had paid \$378.73 into Court, this represented the value of the goods. They, however, denied liability and wrongful conversion. They claimed the goods were received by mistake and they were not liable for damages about the cost price.

Received By Mistake.

In regard to the counter claim, went on counsel, this concerned a parcel of goods intended for the defendant and sold to her by Mr. Pearman which arrived at the same time as the other goods. These were received by plaintiff, but not by mistake. An offer to effect a settlement by the payment of the difference was refused by plaintiff and in consequence this action arose.

Judgment was entered for the plaintiff for \$1,000 with costs on the claim, and for the defendant on the counter-claim for \$223.50 and costs concurrently.

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